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DAILY REPORT

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SOCIALIST MEETING ENDS; DECLARATION ISSUED

PY222120 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2357 GMT 21 Aug 83

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 21 Aug (EFE) -- The final document issued at the meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Socialist International Committee, which ended in Rio de Janeiro today, states that the purpose of the U.S. bases in Panama violates the Carter-Torrijos treaty.

The "Rio de Janeiro Declaration" closed a 3-day meeting which was attended by 50 delegations from 21 countries and which was organized in this city by the Brazilian Democratic Labor Party (PDT).

The document insists that "the Contadora Group's initiative should be extended to El Salvador, where an open genocide is practiced against unarmed people with the pretext of fighting the "FDR-FMLN" [Revolutionary Democratic Front-Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] of the opposition which, with the support of the Socialist International, has repeatedly requested a peaceful agreement."

The "Rio Declaration" points out that the region's increasing foreign debt "jeopardizes the feasibility of implementing any development policy."

It adds that it is "absolutely essential to change that situation with the effort and cooperation of all debtor countries which, despite acknowledging their debt, might be forced to cancel immediate payments in order to renegotiate the principle, maturity dates, and interest rates of their debts for the purpose of overcoming the serious crisis which affects their balance of payments."

The declaration then states that "once that emergency measure has been implemented, attention should be focused on establishing a new economic order which will create a new financial, commercial, and technical framework for the relationship between the world power centers and the dependent and peripheral countries."

Regarding Central America, the declaration states that dramatic challenges plague this area: "The Nicaraguan revolution is threatened by an intolerable invasion openly carried out by Ronald Reagan's Republican administration."

The document denounces the pressure exerted against the Grenadan Government and points out that the "latest military coup in Guatemala does not modify the dictatorial and repressive regime which has governed that country since 1954."

The declaration points out that "we witness with discouragement how the dictatorships in Haiti and Paraguay remain in power with foreign economic and political support," and it reiterates its support of Puerto Ricans' right to self-determination as well as its concern over the repressive actions against Guyanan labor union leaders and political representatives.

The "Rio de Janeiro Declaration" praises the Brazilian democratic process and voices its hopes that "as Brazil becomes more and more democratic, it will radiate and influence this process which will be decisive in solving the problems of fraternal countries."

The document concludes by stating that: "The Chilean people are enduring the most cruel and hateful dictatorship of the continent," and that "in Argentina, its people's struggle and the failures of the military regime have led to the current electoral process," while "heroic Bolivia has finally seen its repeated efforts to achieve democracy succeed, and notes that Uruguay is strengthening its effort to achieve freedom and weaken the authoritarian power."

Havana Reports on Declaration

PA221931 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan revolution is threatened by an unacceptable invasion openly directed by Ronald Reagan's Republican administration, according to a declaration approved Sunday in Rio de Janeiro at the end of a meeting of the Socialist International's Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean.

The document, approved by some 50 delegates of 21 nations, affirmed that the Contadora initiative should extend to El Salvador, where unarmed communities are being massacred under the pretense of fighting the opposition FMLN-FDR, and called for peaceful negotiations with the support of the Socialist International.

The document noted that the recent military coup in Guatemala has not changed the repressive and dictatorial situation which has afflicted that nation since 1954, and condemned the external financing of brutal regimes such as those of Haiti and Paraguay.

The committee also reiterated support for Puerto Rico's right to self-determination and voiced its support for the regimes of Grenada and Bolivia, its solidarity with the Chilean patriots opposing fascism, and its support for the Uruguayan people in their struggle for democracy.

Referring to Latin America's economic situation, the document affirmed that the increase of the area's external debt curbs development policies and called for rectifying that situation through international cooperation and the creation of a more just and equitable international economic order.

Nicaraguan 'Observer' Cited

PA200351 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Text] Father Fernando Cardenal, national coordinator for the Nicaraguan Literacy Campaign, charged in Rio de Janeiro that Nicaragua is the object of a large-scale military intervention by counterrevolutionary groups supported by the United States. He added that the intervention is open, and even discussed in the U.S. Congress. Cardenal reiterated the support of the Sandinist government for the efforts for peace in Central America being made by the Contadora Group and urged Brazil to increase its support to that group of nations, comprised of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama.

Father Fernando Cardenal is in Rio de Janeiro participating, as an observer, in the meeting of the Socialist International Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean being held in that Brazilian city.

MINISTRY REPLIES TO CHILE'S HERMANOS PROTEST

PY230246 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2202 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Aug (DYN) -- The Argentine Government today replied to a protest note submitted to it by the Chilean Government last week, related to an incident that occurred on Hermanos Island, located in the Beagle Channel, with "the calmness and restraint that is called for," according to information leaked at the Foreign Ministry tonight.

The Argentine note repeats, in essence, the wording of the communique issued by the Argentine Navy last Thursday, referring to the incident over an Argentine boat anchoring at Hermanos Island.

According to the informant, the Argentine note, which Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ambassador Alberto Dumont handed to Chilean Charge d'Affaires Raul Schmidt, is in keeping with what "is advisable, given the circumstances."

The Argentine Navy reported last Tuesday that an Argentine patrol boat anchored at the above-mentioned island for repairs and that this did not take more than 10 minutes. The Chilean Government said that a Chilean Navy helicopter flew over the site, where the Argentine boat had "landed some men."

Last Thursday, Chile presented a protest note. In diplomatic circles it was presumed that the Argentine reply would be of a strictly "technical" nature, thus assuming that political implications would be avoided.

HERALD CITES WAR THREAT, GOVERNMENT BELLIGERENCE

PY230042 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Aug 83 p 7

[Text] "Argentina may go to war with Chile (over the Beagle channel)," Movement for Integration and Development (MID) presidential candidate Rogelio Frigerio said yesterday, expressing concern over the "belligerent attitude" of the military government.

Last week's "incident on the island of Hermanos in the disputed Beagle Channel was not of a trivial nature at all," Frigerio said, "since again we were on the brink of war, just like last May."

Last Tuesday an Argentine naval patrol launch briefly disembarked crewmen on the Chilean island of Hermanos, two km northwest of Picton -- one of the Beagle Channel islands claimed by both Argentina and Chile, for what a Navy communique termed "urgent repairs." The launch withdrew after about 20 minutes when a Chilean helicopter flew over it.

According to the MID leader, the landing bore a striking similarity to an incident last May "when a clash between Argentine and Chilean fighter bombers was averted only two minutes before it was due to happen." Last May 25 Chilean and Argentine Air Force planes were reportedly placed on red alert after an Argentine civilian helicopter made a forced landing on Chilean territory.

Frigerio slammed the government for "persistently refusing to accept the Vatican peace proposal, even if it is ad referendum of the next constitutional government" and called for an "agreement within the framework of Pope John Paul II's mediation offer."

The MID leader also said that the country's main political parties demand that "a solution" be found in the dispute, stressing that "even this (demand), which expressed the opinion of the majority of the population was disregarded by the military."

Asked about a report released last week called "Alternatives and likely developments in the Argentine political scenario," which was at first attributed to state intelligence services, Frigerio termed it "not a very serious way of dealing with the subject (of the Beagle conflict)." The report claimed that there were "six percent chances of an armed conflict with Chile" and said this would be "the only incident which could lead to an interruption of the electoral process."

CASTRO MADERO CITES POSITIVE U.S. ATTITUDE

PY210003 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0346 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 19 Aug (TELAM) -- Today Vice Admiral Carlos Castro Madero, president of the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA), said that the U.S. attitude regarding Argentina in the nuclear field is very positive.

However, he denied that the 143 tons of German-made heavy water, which was authorized for sale to our country by the United States, is going to cost \$100 million. He said: "This is not so because the first 38 tons we are soon going to receive will only cost us \$8 million and if we decide to get the remaining 105 tons we will pay \$22.5 million. This proves that they were obtained at a good price.

He indicated that it is understood that any material Argentina receives from abroad will be inspected or must carry an international safeguard, but that no supervision of Argentine technology will be allowed. Regarding nuclear submarines, he indicated that the CNEA is making a study to demonstrate that Argentina is in a condition to build them and that this decision will be in the hands of the future government.

ECONOMY MINISTER WEHBE RETURNS FROM NEW YORK

PY221337 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe and Central Bank Vice President Luis Mey returned to the country yesterday from New York. Both Wehbe and Mey signed a bridge loan for \$1.5 billion on Thursday. They were welcomed at the airport by Central Bank President Julio Gonzalez del Solar.

ARMY DENIES REPORTS OF ROLE IN ELECTORAL PROCESS

PY220345 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Aug 83 p 18

[Text] The Army high command denied yesterday that the service had produced an alleged state-intelligence report, forecasting a Peronist victory in the October 30 elections, which was published in the press last week. In an official statement the Army pointed out that it is following a policy of nonintervention in the electoral process.

The statement also "warns citizens of possible manoeuvres trying to involve the service in the electoral struggle, ascribing to it (the Army) positions, preferences and support for certain sectors, in flagrant contradiction to the unequivocally impartial behavior" the Army has shown "through concrete facts."

"Accusations such as these against the Argentine Army," concludes the statement, "can only be described as tendentious and arbitrary, (as ones) intended to...bar the development of the institutionalization process...the completion of which will not be modified, (as) the service has made the firm decision to comply with its commitments to the nation."

The alleged intelligence report, which was not directly attributed to the Army, brought about heated reaction from politicians, who rejected any sort of state interference in the electoral process.

MASSERA DENIES CONNECTION WITH TERRORIST GROUP

PY222150 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1329 GMT 21 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Aug (EFE) -- Admiral Emilio Massera, former commander of the Argentine Navy, asserted before Judge Jose Nicasio Dibut that he had nothing to do with the rightist terrorist group "Triple A." Moreover, according to his attorney Jaime Prats Cardona, Massera stated that he had been the target of an aborted attack carried out by members of that terrorist group.

The attorney also pointed out that the former of the Military Junta had told the judge that he should ask the current Navy commander, Admiral Ruben Franco, for any information regarding alleged abuses carried out by the Navy during the struggle against subversion.

Prats Cardona pointed out that "Admiral Massera could hardly be involved with that terrorist organization (the Triple A), when members of that same organization tried to kill him when he was Navy commander."

The attorney denied any connection between the case investigating abuses at the Navy's Mechanical School during anti-subversive repressions and that which refers to the "illegal association" with the "Triple A."

NATIONAL STRIKE PARALYZES RAILROAD SERVICE

PY221307 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1245 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 22 Aug (NA) -- The national strike of railroad workers, which forced railroad officials to cancel all railroad services, is being observed by all railroad workers. Railroad activity stopped at approximately 2300 last night and will not be resumed until a few minutes after 0000 tomorrow. Today the railroad stations of the different lines were unusually empty. Three of the four railroad workers unions decided to hold a 24-hour strike because their salary demands were not fulfilled.

PRESS REPORT ON PLANS FOR ARMS PURCHASES

PY220134 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Aug 83 p 18

[Text] The Air Force may be planning to purchase a yet undetermined number of U.S.-made F-20 Tigershark fighter aircraft as part of a reported programme to reequip its combat fleet.

A report published in the specialized Aero Mundial magazine, said to have been reprinted from Aviation Weekly and Space Technology, adds that the Navy will continue to negotiate the purchase of French-made Super Etendard naval fighter aircraft.

According to the magazine, the Navy is also considering the purchase of Aerospastiale Dauphine II or Augusta 202 helicopters. The service would reportedly prefer to buy U.S.-made Orion PC3 craft, but do not expect the state department to authorize the sale.

Aero Mundial quoted alleged statements to Aviation Weekly by Brigadier David Eduardo Chiosa, head of internal Air Force affairs, to the effect that the decision to purchase the F-20s had been taken here and authorized by the U.S. Government before last year's war with Britain over the Malvinas islands.

Argentine Air Force fighter pilots, says the magazine, are split on their equipment preferences. The Dassault Mirage and the Israeli Kfir are reportedly at the top of their wish list, but many of the younger pilots are said to favour the F4E Phantom II, such as the ones currently stationed by the Royal Air Force at the Malvinas islands.

NAVY REPORT ON ISLA DE LOS ESTADOS OPERATION

PY192204 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0037 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Text] Ushuaia, 18 Aug (TELAM) -- Officials from the Southern Naval Command yesterday inspected the installations of the Argentine Navy detachment that mans the weather station that has been operating for years on Isla de los Estados.

This detachment, manned by a crew of trained military personnel and assisted by Navy and air units of the Southern Naval Command, carries out specific technical weather-related activities to support the weather forecast centers that provide international naval security assistance to ships navigating in the South Atlantic.

The Navy inspects these installations to improve their technical and communication equipment so as to improve the quality of weather information and to expand and assure its presence in the area of the South Atlantic islands.

There is no truth then in recent press reports which say that Isla de los Estados is uninhabited. The truth is that the Navy established this weather forecast center several years ago. This also shows the world that Argentina has been present and carrying out activities on Isla de los Estados and in the South Atlantic area for many years, and that it is offering an effective service to safeguard life at sea.

BOLIVIAN DEFENSE MINISTER ON SHORT PRIVATE VISIT

PY200007 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Text] Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari received Bolivian Defense Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado at noon today. The Bolivian visitor told the media that he had come to San Martin Palace to greet the foreign minister, and that he is in Argentina on a very short private visit.

UDP ANSWERS COB DEMANDS WITH COMMISSION PROPOSAL

PY222020 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Today the government delivered through a ministerial commission an answer to the Bolivian Labor Federation, COB, regarding the workers' participation in the executive branch. The 10-page document was delivered to COB officials along with the government program of the Democratic and Popular Unity, UDP, as the basis for further negotiations.

The government document, signed by the transport and energy ministers and the presidential general secretary, proposes the formation of a permanent commission to study the participation of workers in government policymaking. The document says that this study must cover all UDP programs and COB social and economic proposals.

The text of the government document, addressed to COB Executive Secretary Juan Lechin Oquendo, which will be released in the next few hours, studies the current critical national economic situation, which it considers a consequence of prior administrations. It emphasizes the urgent need to find solutions and to have the national cabinet, the members of which resigned more than a week ago, fully operating again. The ministerial commission, charged with delivering this proposal to the COB, did so at approximately 0930.

GUERRILLAS REPORTEDLY RECEIVING TRAINING IN CUBA

PY202102 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 18 Aug 83 p 3

[Text] Organizations of the Cuban Interior Ministry have resumed training Bolivians in guerrilla tactics near Havana. Groups of people taken to Havana are comprised of 15 to 20 persons, most of whom are from eastern Bolivia. The training, disguised as courses on artificial insemination of cattle for agricultural experts, lasts 3 months.

This report is contained in edition No 760 of the information letter of the Confidential Information Service [Servicio de Informacion Confidencial-SIC]. The text of the letter says:

"Guerrilla:

"The organizations of the Cuban Interior Ministry have resumed the guerrilla training of Bolivians near Havana. Groups of people taken to Havana are comprised of 15 to 20 persons, most of whom are from the eastern part of the country. The training lasts 3 months and is disguised as courses on artificial insemination of cattle for agricultural experts.

"This information was provided by one of the persons who attended the training near Havana in the 'Commandante Che' Camp. The complete declaration was taken by Section II of the Army from Humberto Hillman Aguilera, who was arrested on 5 June by the Sixth Division Command in Trinidad.

"Humberto Hillman Aguilera is from Beni with identity card No 1743510 (Trinidad) and served his military training in the Pando Naval Unit. Hillmann Aguilera, who is under arrest by the San Jorge Military Police, was arrested while questioning a soldier about his unit. He was transferred to La Paz on 13 June by Major Victor Encinas and made his first declaration on 14 June.

"Humberto Hillmann Aguilera said that he left with a group of 24 people from La Paz for Lima on Aeroperu. They were received by a Bolivian named Luis Barrios in Lima who made the arrangements for the flight to Cuba through Panama on Cuban Airlines. Following their arrival in Havana, they were met by a major named Javier and four officials of the Cuban Interior Ministry. Hillmann said that only in Lima were they told of the real motive behind their trip to Cuba. The aim of the Havana mission was to receive training on personal security, specialization in urban and rural guerrilla warfare, and in the training and handling of different arms and all kinds of explosives. General instructions and explanations on the Cuban mission were given by architect Marcos Tufino in Lima's Armendariz Hotel, where they stayed 3 days before departing for Cuba.

"In Havana they were lodged in a safe house in the Sibone neighborhood, 40 km from Havana, by the sea. Once installed in the 'Comandante Che' Camp, they were fully equipped with green uniforms, boots, underwear, and personal hygiene articles. The arms included an A-K submachinegun and a Makarov pistol, both of Soviet make.

"According to Hillmann, Cuban Captain Jorge Franci was in charge of field training. The first month's training consisted of a course, with classroom and field instruction and day and night training, entitled Urban and Rural Guerrilla Tactics. The second month included fire training, explosives, and arms techniques, and the third month on the formation of groups of five people specialized in explosives, intelligence, and homemade arms.

"Captain Amutare of the Cuban Army commanded the second month's fire training and taught the use of the following: The Belgium-made 7.62 caliber FAL rifle; the U.S.-made M-1 Gerand rifle; the German-made Lugur pistol; the U.S.-made Colt 45 pistol, the Soviet-made Makarov pistol; the Italian-made Beretta pistol; the U.S.-made 20 and 50 caliber machine guns; and the Soviet, U.S. and PRC bazookas. Night firing with tracers and infrared equipment was also practiced.

"Humberto Hillman said that he travelled with people with the following names: Ramon; Victor; Carlos; Jose Luis; Amanda; Juan T; Miguel Angel Moreno; Mario Julio Lacoa; Jose Paniagua; and Janet; the latter reportedly is an important public official.

"According to Humberto Hillmann, Miguel Angel Moreno and Mariano Julio Lacoa are charged with buying arms and uniforms from the Armed Forces. Architect Rufino reportedly operated from Santa Cruz.

"Humberto Hillmann's group was No 42. Hillmann said that during his stay in Cuba, in a weekend on the beach, he learned that there were other Bolivian groups receiving similar training. If Hillmann's group was No 42, military officials in charge of this case believe thus far approximately 840 people have reportedly been trained, including many women and university students, presuming that 20 people travelled with each group, as reported by Humberto Hillmann.

"SIC in its report No 733 of 2 February published an intelligence report on the Nicaraguan-Cuban strategy which operates outside the Bolivian Communist Party system and which is linked to the Peruvian Shining Path guerrilla organization. This intelligence report, obtained from European sources, mentioned a perfectly orchestrated plan to establish in the national territory a center of operations primarily aimed at carrying out guerilla actions in neighboring countries.

"It also has been learned that foreign intelligence organizations have confirmed the information given by Humberto Hillmann Aguilera."

Armed Forces on Training

PY192140 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Text] The Bolivian Armed Forces have expressed their concern over press reports stating that groups of Bolivians are being trained in Cuba to perpetrate subversive activities in our country. In this regard, the Armed Forces command has issued a statement noting:

With the objective of achieving political advantage and publicity, some groups and/or persons do not hesitate to slander the Armed Forces by charging that they, in conjunction with other national sectors, are involved in subversive activities.

While some are involved in a political struggle, instead of looking after the current critical domestic socioeconomic situation, the Armed Forces reassert that they have no intention of getting involved in subversive actions since their members are aware that the fatherland needs all its sons to preserve it by ruling out sectarian confrontation and political ambitions, which only harm the nation and the Bolivian people, who only want to achieve national good.

The statement adds: The Armed Forces have repeatedly stated that they are and will continue to comply with constitutional guidelines. Moreover, they hope that all national organizations, all national sectors, and all Bolivians will act in keeping with the Constitution.

It notes: In view of this, the Armed Forces are surprised and concerned over press reports which state that groups of Bolivians are receiving subversive training in Cuba. What kind of guerrilla activity are these Bolivians training for? Have they stopped thinking about the fatherland? Or are they trying, with ulterior motives, to transform Bolivia into a subversive center of ideas that are foreign to our Bolivian spirit?

The Armed Forces statement adds: The Armed Forces are convinced that the nation does not need any guerrilla activity, internal struggles, or ideologies that are against our national ideals and traditional values. What we need is unity, a spirit of understanding, responsibility, honesty, and sacrifice to achieve national development. In doing so, we will honor Simon Bolivar on the bicentennial of his birth.

Interior Ministry Denies Involvement

PY202200 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Undated communique released by the Bolivian Interior Ministry]

[Text] With reference to media reports and documents regarding an alleged guerrilla warfare plan in Bolivia, the Interior, Migration, and Justice Ministry, cognizant of the democratic spirit of the Bolivian people and the institutions of the republic, renders the following definitive clarifications to the public:

1. The Facts

If the statements made by Hillmann can be called facts, he went to Cuba with the apparent intention of receiving training in farming and cattleraising, but it turned out he was recruited for guerrilla training. The Interior Ministry has no primary knowledge about this because that person has never been in the service of the ministry. Proof of this is Hillmann's statement in which he admits that he did not work for the ministry after returning from his trip to Cuba and comments that the ministry did not even know of his existence, much less of his mission. Consequently, it is only logical to conclude that the Interior, Migration, and Justice Ministry had no relation with that mission or person, either as an institution or through its officials.

In this case the Armed Forces have undoubtedly acted in accordance with their legitimate duties, but the content of the statement they have obtained is contradictory on many points. For instance, Hillmann first mentions that six persons went to Cuba, then he refers to a group of 14 or 15, but in the end there are 24 training for subversion, and by multiplying groups of that size he reaches the conclusion that there must be over 800 guerrilla fighters training in Cuba.

Another contradiction showing the confusion of the witness is observed in his statement that the work was extremely hard, while, in another part of his testimony, he says that they spent most of the time playing at the beach. Thus is explained that Mr Hillmann concluded he was being trained to serve the current government and to destroy the Armed Forces.

Another discrepancy which confirms the weakness of the evidence arises when the witness talks about an arms deposit in the Interior Ministry, consisting of 10 USIS [expansion unknown] four rifles and five pistols. Some deposit!

2. The Guerrilla Method

Dr Siles Zuazo's democratic government exists at the will of the people, expressed in elections. Even when the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left and its allied parties were in exile, it was specifically stated that its road to power could not, and should not, pass through the guerrillas phase but rather the electoral process. Since this is what has happened, it would be a mistake for the current government to contemplate guerrilla action. The present government's leaders have always pronounced themselves against the bloodthirsty and ruthless practice and theory of the guerrilla cells.

The Interior Ministry now confirms that Dr Siles Zuazo's democratic regime believes that methods of urban revolutionary war, rural guerrilla cells, and social subversion are outdated in Bolivia, because the deep causes which encouraged them have disappeared as a result of the measures of the national revolution which have now been led into new channels. Therefore, the suggestion that the government itself or the Interior Ministry should promote guerrilla warfare against its own domestic regime is naive and ridiculous. Thus far, the only threat of a guerrilla nature comes from the drug trafficking right and Garcia Meza's remaining followers.

3. A Political Maneuver

At a time when the problem of preserving the democratic regime, which is confronted by a coordinated rightist offensive, is under debate, a rumor like this has some highly suspicious aspects. In the first place, it serves the counterrevolutionary preparations at home and abroad, and within the country there is an attempt to magnify before the eyes of the Armed Forces a matter to which they have not attached much importance. Externally, the intention is to cause suspicion in neighboring democratic governments which are in fact suffering from guerrilla problems. The intention is to deprive Dr Siles Zuazo's regime of international sympathy. It is clearly an antidemocratic subversive maneuver against democracy.

Internally, this scandal is a precisely timed political maneuver. A set of documents compiled 2 months ago, on 14 June, is published at the time a new cabinet must be called. The obsessive determination of influencing that change according to the interests and designs of some sectors is present. That set of documents was so inconclusive that the Armed Forces did not at the time assign the serious importance to it that other sectors now do. But the Bolivian citizens clearly notice that the dossier of that statement has been manipulated.

FIGUEIREDO SUPPORTS NETTO AS IMF NEGOTIATOR

PY222220 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Excerpts] From now on, Planning Minister Delfim Netto will conduct negotiations between the IMF and Brazilian sectors. This decision was made by President Joao Figueiredo himself, thus reasserting his support for the minister's role. Figueiredo has given Minister Netto a green light to hold any sort of negotiations and adopt any measures he may deem appropriate for the country.

From now on, Finance Minister Ernan Galveas and Central Bank President Carlos Langoni have to consult Delfim Netto before making any decision. Figueiredo believes that the planning minister is the most appropriate government authority to conduct the negotiations.

DEBT PAYMENTS TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS SUSPENDED

PY230138 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 20 Aug 83 p 1

[Text] As it asked yesterday to begin negotiations with the Paris Club, Brazil suspended payments on debts with governments and official institutions of industrialized countries. This information was provided by the chief of the International Advisory Office at the Planning Ministry, Jose Botafogo Goncalves.

Planning Minister Delfim Netto yesterday confirmed that he handed a letter to the Paris Club coordinator Michel Camdessus requesting that negotiations begin on Brazil's commitments to developed country governments and official institutions, which amount to \$2 billion through the end of 1984.

Minister Netto expects to conclude an agreement by the end of October. By going to the Paris Club, Netto said the Brazilian Government's intention was "to negotiate everything" at one time. He added: "We want to have one negotiation only, involving the IMF, the Paris Club, and the foreign private banks. Thus we can have a simultaneous agreement with all parties."

In Paris yesterday, Minister Netto was received by French Finance Minister Jacques Delors, and met with IMF Director Jacques de Larosiere, with whom, the minister said, "a few things are still pending." Netto will again meet with De Larosiere early today before flying back to Brazil.

PETROBRAS NEGOTIATES WITH MULTINATIONALS, OPECOPEC Firms Increase Supply

PY200025 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Aug 83 p 6

[Excerpt] Rio de Janeiro -- Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Qatar have increased their oil exports to Brazil, thus securing the oil supply that was threatened by the intention of suppliers to request letters of credit. The volume of oil that was negotiated, which is on the order of 100,000 barrels daily, is the same that Petrobras intended to purchase from the multinational companies that distribute oil byproducts.

Saudi Arabia was exporting 120,000 barrels daily to Brazil, out of which 50,000 barrels were provided by the state firm, Petromin, and the remaining barrels by the firm Aramco, which is made up of multinational companies and which was nationalized recently. The exportation of the additional barrels will reportedly be made through Aramco. Atan Barbosa, director of the Petrobras Public Relations Department and a personal friend of Minister Shaykh Yamani, visited Saudi Arabia last week.

The negotiations with the firms Kuwait Petroleum Corporation and Qatar General Petroleum Corporation were carried out in London last week by Hamilton Albertazzi, Petrobras commercial superintendent. Albertazzi also carried out negotiations with Shell International. Kuwait and Qatar each were exporting approximately 15,000 barrels daily to Brazil.

Negotiations Continue

PY222304 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 Aug 83 p 1

[Text] Petrobras has not succeeded in concluding negotiations with Esso, Shell, or Atlantic for the supply of oil to Brazil because those companies require 30- to 60-day payments. The state-run company's commercial director, Carlos Sant'Anna said that "for closing that kind of deal those companies would have to offer extraordinary price advantages, and that is not the case."

Negotiations will continue next week, when Sant'Anna will go to New York, London, and Vienna to talk with the main offices of those companies and to make contacts with representatives of oil-producing countries.

To compensate for the failure to reach agreements with the multinational companies, Petrobras has secured additional supplies of 145,000 barrels of oil per day from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Qatar (100,000, 30,000, and 15,000 barrels per day) at international market prices payable in 120 days without bill of credit.

PRC OFFICIAL ARRIVES, VISITS CANCER INSTITUTE

PY191912 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Aug 83 p 15

[Text] During the first part of his visit to Brazil, PRC Vice Public Health Minister Guo Ziheng visited the National Cancer Institute in Rio de Janeiro yesterday. The deputy minister, who was met by Health Minister Waldir Arcoverde, said that the main purpose of his visit to Brazil was to strengthen cooperation in the medical field. The 39-year-old Inca Hospital is considered one of the main cancer institutes in Brazil.

BRIEFS

USSR, CANADA SUSPEND SUPPLIES -- The Finance Ministry has reported that the Soviet Union and Canada have temporarily suspended the sale of raw materials for fertilizers, particularly chloride, until Brazil defines its current foreign trade policy establishing priorities for import payments. The National Association for Fertilizer Distribution (ANDA) reported that Brazil still needs 750,000 tons of chloride to provide the 1.2 million tons Brazilian agriculture needs for its annual consumption. [Summary]
[Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 7 Aug 83 p 32 PY]

PINOCHET THREATENS MARXISTS WITH ANOTHER 11 SEP

PY222030 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0031 GMT 21 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 20 Aug (EFE) -- Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet yesterday warned that if Marxism continues to carry out its activities, 11 September will be repeated again; that is the date of the military coup he headed in 1973.

General Pinochet made this statement in Chillan, the birthplace of Bernardo O'Higgins, the greatest hero of the Chilean independence on the occasion of the 205th birthday of the "Fatherland's Forefather." Pinochet stated that "we, the true Chileans, will block the way so that Marxism may never return to this land."

The president added: "With what anguish we democrats, those of us who have a true democratic spirit, witnessed the government of the Popular Unity (1970-1973), the communist government, and how they destroyed the family, the men, and the institutions."

The chief of state pointed out that "today, after almost 10 years, we are able to contemplate the path we have set as defenders of democracy, because we are protecting democracy with our own lives."

The president also pointed out that "when Chile, in time, turns to look back I am sure it will find that these 10 years have served as a wall to contain Marxism. They will be years which history will have to acknowledge as years of true effort and determination in seeking the freedom of the nation."

General Pinochet added that "another 11 September cannot happen, should not happen, because the fatherland has to continue to go forward; but if Marxism and those who do not want to understand continue with their activities, we will have to repeat another 11 September."

Pinochet ended by stating that unlike "the Marxists, we do not need to call ourselves a democratic republic because the Chilean citizen has a democratic spirit and wants freedom, sovereignty, and a peaceful atmosphere to live in, above all. This is what all of us desire."

DEFENSE MINISTER NOTES ARGENTINE VIOLATIONS

PY222038 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0330 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Santiago, 21 Aug (EFE) -- National Defense Minister Vice Admiral Patricio Carvajal has stated that the situation in the Beagle Channel is normal but "we are aware, and it has become publicly and notoriously recognized, that Argentine Navy and Air Force units constantly violate the area."

The minister, who today, Sunday, returned to Santiago after a 2-day visit to the Antarctic zone, added that "in each case of a territorial violation we lodge the corresponding protest, as well as informing the mediator [Pope John Paul II] about them."

The defense minister, who held a meeting with the commander in charge of defending the Southern Military Region, stated that the spirit of those based there is excellent and that Puerto Williams has experienced rapid development.

PAPER LAUDS PROSPECTS OF CHILE-PRC COMMISSION

PY230056 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 17 Aug 83 p 3

[Editorial: "The Joint Chile-PRC Commission"]

[Text] The work sessions of the VI Joint Chile-PRC Commission are to be noted for their importance, because they will analyze questions related to bilateral trade, economic, and financial cooperation, and, for the first time, possible forms of scientific and technological cooperation.

The fact that the PRC delegation is headed by a high-ranking government official, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations Jin Shi, is a sign of the special attention that country gives its relations with Chile regarding these areas.

The increase of bilateral trade with that giant of Asia opens many possibilities at a time when trade with Western industrialized countries is going through a serious crisis due to the restrictive barriers now existing in many of those nations.

As is known, neither the Williamsburg summit nor the Belgrade summit produced an answer from the nations of the North. Thus the North-South dialogue remains in the same stalemate it has experienced for some time already. Hence, the prospects of a market of such broad potential as that of the PRC are very promising at a particularly critical moment for our exports.

It should also be noted that the possibilities for scientific and technological cooperation which will be analyzed may result in the implementation of joint programs. Any initiative in those areas will be mutually beneficial, because it will make possible the sharing of knowledge in areas that will be staked out by the Joint Commission. As usual, any initiative in this regard will have to be developed under medium- and long-term timetables.

All of this is interesting because it shows that relations are good between the two countries, and because it also reveals the possibility of understanding between countries under different political regimes if only relations are maintained with respect for and noninterference in internal affairs.

We can only express our best wishes for the success of these deliberations.

BRIEFS

NEW CORFO GENERAL MANAGER -- Army Lieutenant Colonel Aurelio Palomino de Bernardis has been designated new general manager of the Production Development Corporation, CORFO. He will replace Julio Ponce Lerou who resigned in July. [Summary] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 4 Aug 83 p B-1 PY]

FOREIGN DEBT REDUCED -- The Central Bank has reported that during the first half of this year the foreign debt decreased by about \$1 billion. By the end of December 1982, the foreign debt of banks and financial institutions, including the State Bank, was \$7,724,000,000, but by June 1983 it was \$6,291,000,000. This difference represents a decline of 13.6 percent. [Summary] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 5 Aug 83 p B-2 PY]

U.S. ARTIST REPORTEDLY KIDNAPPED IN BOGOTA

PA221340 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Bogota -- Corinne Hues, a well-known U.S. sculptress, has reportedly been kidnapped in Bogota and taken, apparently, to an unidentified area of Caqueta Intendency.

BETANCUR URGES REBELS TO ACCEPT AMNESTY

PA222333 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Pasto, Narino -- President Belisario Betancur has again appealed to the Colombian rebels, noting that there is still time to accept the amnesty. The president made this statement during a visit he made to this town yesterday within the tour of Narino Department that he began on Saturday. The president will travel to Putumayo today

Referring to peace, President Betancur said: I offer my hand in conciliation to those who are disturbing our peace, but I warn you that the Armed Forces, zealous guardians of the Constitution and the law, are not tolerant of crime or criminals.

Justifying his efforts to promote peace in Central America, President Betancur said: We are a part of this region, and the disturbance of peace here will have repercussions on our own sacred territory of San Andres and Providencia, because we certainly will be affected by the deadly consequences of any conflict.

PRESIDENT BETANCUR APPOINTS NEW GOVERNORS

Meets With Governors

PA190159 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Aug 83

[Report by Alvaro Reyes, at the Narino Palace; date not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] As the third governors' meeting begins with President Belisario Betancur attending, the situation can be summed up as follows, although there are still items to be discussed that will be considered this afternoon.

The president has warned the 23 governors that this is a solely national government and not one of political ministries. He added that after painstaking efforts by him and the government minister, the governors were selected for their qualities and their sense of responsibility. For this reason, the president said, admitting it may be bothersome for them to hear so many warnings, I want to tell you that I will dismiss, without further investigation and without political consideration, those officials who assume positions alien to the government.

The president again stressed that, above all, we have to work for peace, which should be the purpose and goal of government action. In turn, Government Minister Alfonso Gomez Gomez told the governors the basic tasks of the positions they have just assumed. He stated there will be austerity in the public budget.

Explains Policy Goals

PA191720 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Text] Bogota -- Twenty-two out of 23 governors have agreed that they will carry out President Belisario Betancur's policies in their regions and guarantee political neutrality, administrative honesty, strict control of expenses, and a national outlook in the distribution of posts, or they will be dismissed. The only governor who did not accept his appointment in the first cabinet reorganization was Liberal member Luis Raul Rodriguez Lamus, who had been appointed for Norte de Santander.

President Belisario Betancur ratified 8 governors and appointed 15 new ones. Betancur and his ministers asked the governors for caution in handling labor agreements, rational handling of passports, strict compliance with labor agreements, and respect for political parties without giving in to their leaders.

In 1984, some 900 municipal councils and 23 departmental assemblies will be renewed.

During the summit conference at Narino Palace, President Betancur renewed his administration's national spirit and urged his departmental representatives to keep him up to date on their regions. Another topic was the need for a sound basis on which to handle governorate budgets, avoid unnecessary appointments, and strictly control luxury expenses.

After this warning, President Belisario Betancur told his collaborators that if they did not agree with his policies, there was still time to reject the job, but no one did. The president announced a ban on participation in politics by public officials and against so-called charity contributions, the use of official vehicles on weekends, and abuse of their positions to provide political support for any party.

Governors Confirmed

PA170344 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0422 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Summary] President Betancur today confirmed the following eight governors in their respective positions: Nicanor Restrepo, in Antioquia; Abel Francisco Carbonell, in Atlantico; Julio Cesar Sanchez, in Cundinamarca; Julio Cesar Zapateiro, in Cordoba; Jose Antonio Villegas, in Huila; Ismael Aldana in Choco; German Gaviria, in Risaralda; and Doris de Zambrano, governor for the Department of Valle. As a special case, Guillermo Valencia Abdala will replace his sister Sara Valencia, who has resigned, as governor of Magdalena.

Governors' Namelist

PA220301 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 19 Aug 83 p 8-A

[Summary] The following governors have been either confirmed in their posts or newly appointed by Colombian President Belisario Betancur: Abel Francisco Carbonell Vergara, Atlantico Department; Marun Gossain Jattin, Bolivar Department; Napoleon Peralta Barrera, Boyaca Department; Fabio Trujillo Agudelo, Caldas Department; Amparo Ossa Suarez, Caqueta Department; Julio Arboleda Valencia, Cauca Department; Julio Cesar Zapateiro Rodriguez, Cordoba Department; Rodrigo Dangond Lacouture, Guajira Department; Antonio Jose Villegas Trujillo, Huila Department; Guillermo Valencia Abdala, Magdalena Department; Beatriz Abril de Leal, Meta Department; Myriam Paredes Aguirre, Narino Department; Luis Raul Rodriguez Lamus, Norte de Santander Department; Jaime Lopera Gutierrez, Quindio Department; German Gaviria Velez, Risaralda Department; Jorge Sedano Gonzalez, Santander Department; Adalberto Quintero Carballo, Sucre Department; Carlos Martinez Silva, Tolima Department; and Doris Eder de Zambrano, Valle del Cauca Department.

UK LORD INVESTIGATES DATA BANK SITUATION

PY191918 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 18 Aug 83 p 11

[Text] Lord Avebury, member of the House of Lords of the United Kingdom of Great Britain, has held a meeting with Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro to discuss the situation of the Paraguayan Data Bank [BPD] and of the personnel of this institution who have been charged with violating Law 209. The result of this conversation has not been revealed.

Lord Avebury has been in Paraguay since Wednesday, 10 August, and is holding a number of meetings to investigate the current situation of the BPD. For this purpose, he has the support of the British Council of Churches and of the agencies of British Cooperation.

Lord Avebury explains that he also intends to take the necessary steps to protect the BPD archives.

Lord Avebury is the president of the Parliamentary Human Rights Commission, which is made up of representatives of the two chambers of the United Kingdom. Among the national authorities visited by Lord Avebury are Interior Ministry Under Secretary Miguel Angel Bestard and Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro. On both occasions, the British legislator was accompanied by representatives of the British Embassy in our country. In the first meeting he was accompanied by the first secretary of the embassy. In the meeting with the interior minister, he was accompanied by Ambassador Derrick Mellor, as he reported to this newspaper.

He also said that the national authorities have promised to allow him to visit the detainees at Tacumbu prison, and that yesterday he was making the necessary arrangements to do so. Lord Avebury said that the conclusions of his investigations will be presented to the institutions which sent him to our country. He will depart on Sunday.

Deplores Rights Violations

PY222345 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 21 Aug 83 p 8

[Excerpt] Lord Avebury, a member of the House of Lords of the United Kingdom who was sent to Paraguay at the British Council of Churches to investigate the case involving the Paraguayan Data Bank (BPD), said yesterday that Law 209 violates not only constitutional principles but also the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. With a judiciary which is subservient to the executive branch, he noted, no individual charged under this law can expect to have a fair trial. He deplored the fact that some prisoners had been tortured, and affirmed that human rights violations are an endemic malady in Paraguay.

BRIEFS

BALANCE OF TRADE -- According to the June issue of the BCP [Central Bank of Paraguay] statistical bulletin, the \$59,930,200 deficit in the balance of trade during the first 6 months of 1983 was caused by imports amounting to \$225,764,200 and exports to \$165,834,000. The bulletin adds that exports decreased by \$5,431,000 during June, that is, from \$37,245,000 in May to \$31,816,000 in June [figures as published]. The bulletin also states that exports totalled \$165,834,000 during the first 6 months of 1983 compared to \$203,779,000 during the same period in 1982, which represents a drop of 57,945,000. [figures as published] [Excerpt] [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 3 Aug 83 p 8 PY]

PRESIDENT BELAUNDE BLASTS AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

PY192207 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Text] President Fernando Belaunde Terry has accused Amnesty International of supporting the extreme left and of disregarding democratic governments.

During an interview granted to UPI, President Belaunde said that Amnesty International's letters will go directly into the trash can, adding that he will not answer the letters because he does not respect Amnesty International. The president said that Amnesty International, which is headquartered in London, is insolent and full of fools. He said that Amnesty International did not support him when he was overthrown by a military coup in 1968, 1 year before the end of his first administration. The head of state said that Amnesty International adopts an aggressive attitude when democracy is restored in a country, adding that it should be aggressive toward dictatorships and not toward democratic governments.

The president later said that Amnesty International cares only about those who follow communist ideology. He also said that he did not object to Amnesty International defending human rights in communist countries, but that there are no reasons for excluding non-communist countries. The president concluded by stating that the actions carried out by the terrorists are prompted by their desperation and envy.

ORLANDINI ON COMMANDER'S COMMUNIST PLOT CHARGES

PY230009 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Senator Alva Orlandini has pointed out that the Army commander's charges [that former Army officers were involved in a plot to install communism in Peru] confirm sound suspicions which have existed in this regard for some time. Shortly before leaving for Ilo, the second vice president of the republic stated that Commander Briceno's statements reveal the Army's support for democracy. Alva Orlandini stated that the former officers involved with subversive communist elements belonged to the former regime, in which they occupied important and strategic posts, especially during the so-called first phase of the regime.

THREE GUARDS TORTURED, SHOT BY TERRORISTS

PY230013 Paris AFP in Spanish 1440 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Ayacucho, 22 Aug (AFP) -- The Political-Military Command of the emergency zone has disclosed that the bodies of two Republican Guards and one civilian guard, which were bullet riddled and bore signs of torture, were found yesterday, Sunday, in Sihuas, in Huanta Province in Ayacucho. The victims, Republican Guards Ezequiel Ortiz Castro, 22, and Miguel Velasquez Avila, 20, and civilian guard Porfirio Moron Cordoba, 30, surprised by a large group of terrorists armed with machetes and sub-machine guns who murdered them, according to the police report. A communique issued by the Political-Military Command describes as smear propaganda, which seeks to shatter the unity of the forces of order, the report of an alleged work stoppage established for today, Monday, by the members of the Republic Guard based in Ayacucho, and stated that it will not take place. Moreover, it was learned here from police sources that a patrol left for Pampa Cangallo, 100 km south of Ayacucho, where it seems that a group of guerrillas has carried out several attacks and executed inhabitants of the area.

PEREZ ESQUIVEL DENIED ENTRY AT AIRPORT

PY201633 Paris AFP in Spanish 1415 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Text] Montevideo, 20 Aug (AFP) -- It has been reported that Adolfo Perez Esquivel, Nobel Peace Prize winner and general coordinator of the Latin America Peace and Justice Service, was forced by officials to return today to Buenos Aires. He, therefore, was not able to make his scheduled visit to Uruguay. During his stay here, Perez Esquivel planned to meet with two Catholic bishops and a Methodist minister who have been on a hunger strike for 8 days for the purpose of making 25 August -- Uruguayan Independence Day -- a day of national reflection. He was also going to give a press conference. When Perez Esquivel arrived at the Carrasco Airport from the Argentine capital, officials prevented the Nobel Peace Prize winner from getting off the airplane, and therefore he had to return to Buenos Aires. Four militants of his movement who accompanied him were authorized to disembark, but they decided to return to the Argentine capital with Perez Esquivel.

HUNGER STRIKERS NOT ALLOWED TO SEE VISITORS

PY191702 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0454 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 18 Aug (EFE) -- The Uruguayan "Peace and Justice Service" [SERPAJ] reported today that the police have prohibited three SERPAJ members, who have been fasting since 11 August, to receive visitors. The last communique that reprints a letter written by the SERPAJ general coordinator, Argentine Nobel Prize Winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel, notes that "a police guard stops everyone from entering SERPAJ headquarters." According to the communique, the chief of the local police station informed SERPAJ that the only persons exempted from this rule are "the judge, doctors, and those who bring things that the people fasting need." He also ordered SERPAJ "to remove the poster announcing the holding of the fast."

CHURCH OFFERS ASSISTANCE IN POLITICAL DIALOGUE

PY201621 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Canelones Bishop Orestes Nuti has also met with the president. During a telephone conversation with El Espectador, Bishop Nuti noted: [Begin recording] It was really a very cordial, friendly meeting. It was also an open meeting.

[Question] Can you tell us what issues were discussed during the meeting?

[Answer] Well, I cannot disclose the issues that were discussed, but they are all of great national importance. However, all these issues will be disclosed at the proper time.

We did offer our cooperation at this time; that is, the church does not want to mediate in this problem. It wants to bring together all those sectors that must participate in this dialogue so as to achieve those objectives that the people have for the nation. All Uruguayans want a solution to this deadlocked situation. Therefore, in view of this, and through the cooperation of the bishops, the military, the politicians, and other national sectors, I believe we will be able to overcome all the problems and bring together the people involved so that the dialogue will continue. [end recording]

SEPULVEDA, D'ESCOTO DISCUSS CONTADORA GROUP MEETING

FL221517 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0047 GMT 21 Aug 83

[Text] Mexico City, 20 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto returned to Nicaragua today after meeting with Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor to discuss a meeting of the Contadora Group.

The Nicaraguan diplomat, who arrived in Mexico City last Thursday, was accompanied in his talks by Henry White [as received], Jose Salinas Licon, and Hector Pacheco Martinez.

It has been reported unofficially that the talks held with the Mexican foreign secretary covered Mexico's trade with Nicaragua and other subjects of common interest to the two nations.

It was also reported that preparations were made for the meeting of the Contadora Group that will be held in Panama at the beginning of September.

PSUM, CTM DENY CHARGE OF AIDING GUATEMALAN REBELS

FL222130 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1910 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 20 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) and the Confederation of Mexican Workers (CTM) have denied that this country is encouraging or helping Guatemalan guerrillas, as asserted by two officers of that Central American country.

In a press statement, the PSUM said that to describe refugee camps along Mexico's southern border as bases for insurgents from the neighboring country is an absurd accusation that only reveals the real face of the General Mejia Victores government as a guardian [alfil] of imperialism and an opponent of peace.

CTM representative Blas Chumacero said that despite the statements of the Guatemalan dictatorship to the effect that Mexico encourages the guerrillas, Mexico will always give asylum and refuge to anyone who requires it. He said that Mexico is not encouraging the guerrillas and that it is not an aggressor. We believe in the principle of peaceful solution to conflicts and encourage the actions of statesmen such as those who comprise the Contadora Group, Chumacero said.

HEALTH WORK, EFFECT ON GUATEMALAN REFUGEES VIEWED

PA201320 Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 13 Aug 83

[Editorial: "Health on the Southern Border"]

[Text] The Guatemalan refugees who have sought shelter camps along the southern border have created a serious problem -- not only with regard to international politics but also with regard to anything related to the right to health. Nevertheless, it is comforting to know that the Mexican Government, in line with the humanitarian ideals set forth by President Miguel de la Madrid, is handling the situation and doing its duty as it should be done.

Dr Guillermo Soberon Acevedo, health and public assistance secretary, acknowledged the entire situation when he said that in the field of health, this is the serious problem facing the country. He was right when he said that at this time, when programs are being promoted throughout the republic to guarantee the right to health, Guatemalan refugees will not be left out.

Comprehensive investigations are being carried out in continuing coordination with specialized UN organizations, to determine the political, social, and economic factors in these camps established in Chiapas, where more than 40,000 Guatemalans, who managed to escape death, are trying to find a new way of life.

The Mexican Government deserves recognition for its effort to solve all those families' problems, if we take into consideration the fact that the country is facing a difficult economic situation. As expected, the programs dealing with the right to health have been adjusted in line with budget restrictions, but even so, the country has advanced considerably under a coordinated policy of national scope which the federal authorities, the state governments, and the municipalities are carrying out throughout the republic.

At the same time, research and chemical-pharmaceutical methods have been developed to provide functional integration of the program, which is of course linked to all programs aimed at guaranteeing the right to health in outlying areas such as the border locales.

COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE PROGRAM EXPECTED IN 2 YEARS

PA200350 Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 13 Aug 83 p 2

[Report by Elena Gallegos]

[Text] In 2 years Mexico will have placed its own satellites in orbit, opening a total of 112 telecommunication channels, increasing telephone services for rural areas.

In this way, our country will try to avoid being left behind in the field of communications, Miguel Eduardo Sanchez Ruiz, special projects director for the Communications and Transport Secretariat, said.

He made the statements during the "national satellites" roundtable organized by the UNAM [National Autonomous University of Mexico] School of Economics, during which he said that it is very important now to keep up with technological advances made in the field of telecommunications.

Meanwhile, Silvia Molina, a professor in the UNAM School of Political and Social Sciences, said that even though communications technology has made incredible advances, allegations that some countries use the satellites for espionage activities are absurd.

"Espionage, with or without satellites, has always existed, so, in the management of telecommunications, we must defend the national identity, without ever denying ourselves possibilities for technological advances," she said. She went on to say that, unlike myths and specters, technology is a human resource and only man can use it for his own benefit or detriment.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR APPOINTED -- Mexico City, 18 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The Foreign Secretariat announced that President Miguel de la Madrid today appointed Dr Sergio Gonzalez Galvez, Mexico's ambassador to Japan, as ambassador to the ROK and concurrent ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, with headquarters in Tokyo. [Summary] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0140 GMT 19 Aug 83 FL]

PAREDES PRESIDENTIAL PROGRAM, CANDIDACY DISCUSSED

Outlines Government Program

PA202050 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Text] Retired General Ruben Dario Paredes officially announced his presidential candidacy for the 1984-89 term today. In an impromptu news conference, Gen Paredes emphasized that he is supported by what he described as important political organizations. He said that he would not mention their names until they officially announced their support for his presidential candidacy.

Paredes' statement came at the end of an important meeting this morning with U.S. Senator Allan Cranston, U.S. Congressman Esteban Torres, and other U.S. Government officials. The meeting was also attended by General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the National Guard; Samuel Lewis Galindo and Gabriel Lewis Galindo [prominent businessmen]; Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado; and legislator Gabriel Altamirano Duque.

Paredes said that his administration would be based on government rectifications. Here are the remarks made by Paredes in this morning's impromptu news conference:

[Begin recording] [Circuito RPC Television reporter Julio Miller] General, there is much talk about your candidacy. Even when you were National Guard commander, there was talk about it. You retired a week ago. What about your presidential candidacy now, when some political parties and active sectors with which you have been meeting are nominating you?

[Paredes] First of all, I would not run against anyone. I would run for the fatherland.

[Miller] But are the statements about your candidacy true?

[Paredes] It is necessary that I run for the following reasons: We must wage a war on hunger. We must wage a war on unemployment. We must wage a frontal and firm war on corruption. Being commander of the National Guard is not sufficient to achieve those very necessary objectives for our people. One must attain the presidency. We will seek the presidency to carry out great missions and plans of national interest for all Panamanians.

[Miller] What will your great government platform be now that you, retired Gen Paredes, have officially announced that you will run for the presidency?

[Paredes] I explained some of it. I think we must become seriously involved with the Institute on the Family and Children. A commission directed by Msgr McGrath has done great work on this. I have its report and I am studying it. We have to directly and seriously become involved with the problems of national education. As a result of the big strike regarding educational reform, we all agree that there is stagnation in education, a deficiency in the education of young men and women for the Panama of the future, the Panama of the year 2000. We must look more closely into the policy of the agricultural sector. We have to look into the problem of tourism, which is decreasing daily. The effects of this are felt in the national economy.

We must look into the deeply felt problem of unemployment. We must offer incentives for investment on the basis of just treatment of labor and management. As I said, we must firmly and courageously look into our judicial system. It seems it has been ignored. We must have a system that by itself, and not just based on the morals of men, can prevent the problems we have had with corruption. It must be strengthened, adjusted. We must also look into things that are harming us.

Mr Miller, I would say that the republic must be restructured. The national administration, the state institutions, must be reformed. They have to be updated to be consistent with today's difficult world. For this reason, one must attain the presidency in a government that would not be leaderless but rather possess authority, with the people ruling in that presidency. We would achieve this through the will of the people. [end recording]

Paredes explained his remarks this morning in the 50th Street house as an outline of a government program for the short-, mid-, and long-term.

[Begin recording] [Paredes] In other words, we are going to go to the presidency with the people.

[Miller] General, you spoke about structuring the government, but you have participated in it for the last 15 years. So, in truth, what has failed at the government level when you speak about structuring as a part of your government platform?

[Paredes] That is an excellent question. For the very reason that I have worked in the government, I know a great deal about these problems. I have not been in charge of the country for the past 15 years. I have been growing as time passed, and I learned much along the way, for example, when I was minister of agriculture and livestock development. I have also learned much about life in the country, about our people on the farmlands, our producers. I know about their problems, and I believe that we can help to change some things that impede agrarian development.

Here in the city, in the context of public administration for populous areas like San Miguelito and the slums in Colon, we need a different type of approach. Perhaps I am speaking off the cuff, but it is to solve these problems that we must take on such an important program as that dealing with the family and children, as a fundamental way to attack the problem of poverty. On the same topic, I think the time has come to design a much more efficient ministry -- I refer to the Ministry of Planning -- that can really implement our plans -- I compare it to the conning tower of an aircraft carrier -- which do not change with the whims of each new minister. We require serious and objective planning, followed up by a minister who has the necessary good judgment. This would include vice ministries, under the leadership of this man, or this institution, which deal with our national economy. I give this example because the national economy, the world recession, greatly influences the country's economic problems. This was only an example.

[Miller] You said that you would seek a government of national unity -- or that you would be a presidential candidate for a government of national unity -- and that the people would have to ask you. Does this mean that there is total accord among the political parties in support of your presidential candidacy, given that you said that you would seek a government of national unity?

[Paredes] Yes, I maintain this stand. I believe that we should unite. The ideal of a good politician -- not a political schemer or a political hustler -- is to unite his country, not divide it. Therefore, I want to attain the presidency with support from the majority of the people.

Naturally, we have held productive talks with the most important parties in the republic. The majority -- I cannot name them today, because I have not yet been authorized to do so, but they will be revealed at the proper time -- have given me their support, and I feel pleased and very optimistic as a result.

[Miller] General, what has happened to the changes and promises -- some people even spoke about constitutional violations -- the amendments to the labor code and to the housing laws? Talks have gone on for over a year and no specific answers have been provided. Now you retire from the National Guard and talk about a new course of action, a new government policy. How can we explain this?

[Paredes] Mr Miller, we have done everything possible in the last year. I was surprised when I saw the results of the constitutional amendments following the referendum; I felt proud to be a Panamanian. We spent much time in this phase, which you might say produced the essence of the suggestions we made to President Ricardo de la Espriella. As for things that have not yet been done, such as reviewing the labor code, a tripartite commission has already been appointed, consisting of workers and union leaders, gentlemen from the private sector, and public officials. They are already meeting and working. I recently met in Colon with a promising labor leader named Jackson, who told me that he was pleased to have met a young businessman called Vallarino. He says that Vallarino is one of the members who contributes the most and that they are getting along well. So we have already sowed the seed, which will produce a harvest. Moderate progress has been made toward positive solutions.

As for the housing law, which would be the final topic, it is true that little progress has been achieved. But I predict that this will be carried out, too. I have hopes that this will be carried out; in any event, it is necessary to do so. [end recording]

Candidacy Seen as Damaging

PA222145 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Aug 83 p 12-A

[Guillermo A. Cochez, Jr. column: "A Conversation With Paredes"]

[Text] I had the opportunity to hold a long conversation with Ruben Darío Paredes shortly after he retired as commander in chief of the National Guard. We met at Valle de Anton, a place that we both usually choose for resting on weekends, he, perhaps, to flee from the flatterers and adulators who surround him, or who surround him until 12 August, and I, to gather strength to continue to denounce corruption and to build democracy. I had not spoken to him since 4 April 1982, when I breakfasted with him as commander of the National Guard.

Our exchange of opinions did not follow an agenda. I wanted to speak to him not as a political party leader, but as a citizen who is concerned about this country's destiny. I felt somewhat free to tell him what I thought, as I was not on any assignment for my party, and as the political committee of the party did not know, at that time, what I was doing.

I had come to the conclusion that Paredes, once he had removed the uniform that gave him so much power for the past 15 months, might be willing to consider the damage that he would do to the country if he insisted on pursuing his unpopular candidacy, and the setback that it would mean for the nation's democratization. I doubted that I would be successful. However, I considered it my duty as a citizen to say to him personally what I have so often told him and will continue to tell him on radio, on television, and in the press.

I clearly expressed two fundamental ideas:

1. If we continue the sham of democracy that the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] and its allies have been promoting, we will lead the country into a crisis similar to those that the dominant classes and the armies that support them have created in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua.
2. His announced presidential candidacy represents the continuation of a regime that is rotten to the core, and that, instead of being able to present the people with valid alternative solutions for their development, he would entrap us in a social and economic situation worse than that which we have endured since October 1968, a situation which has been aggravated in the past few years by the corruption, embezzlement, and squandering that has been rampant in all areas of the administration with which Mr Paredes has been so closely linked.

Our conversation was extensive, although at times I became very aggressive. However, if the former officer was annoyed at my words, he hid his feelings very well. He listened attentively to all that I told him with regard to Attorney General Rodriguez's resignation and to the irreparable damage that this action, attributed to him, had done to the credibility of Panamanian justice. I very clearly told him what I thought of the PRD, its leaders, and those self-seeking parties that have now joined it. I spoke to him of the damage to the community caused by the shameless manipulation of the media, which serve the regime.

The former officer was concerned that the opposition would not accord him the merit that, according to him, he deserves for his part in the democratization process being carried out in Panama. I told him in all sincerity that in this country, no one will be accorded merit as long as we do not live in a real democracy, with opportunities for all, and that democracy cannot be imagined in partial terms, as he and his followers apparently conceive of it. I said that it suffices to remind him of the PRD's failure to live up to its word in the legislative discussion of the electoral code, which was prepared by all the parties and unconstitutionally approved by the Legislative Council; of the boorish registration of parties born under the PRD's wing and support; and of the continued use of state resources by the official parties for political activities. I added that such a "democracy" would only lead the country to new frustration, since it is based solely on one group's interest in remaining in power indefinitely.

Perhaps he was not pleased when I told him that he could not, under any circumstance, be the champion of change in Panama. Because he had participated so closely in the regime that we have had since 1968, his candidacy would mean only the perpetuation of that regime and, as a consequence of this, the final destruction of the little good that is left of Panama.

I told him no one believed the story about transition from dictatorship to democracy. It was the same story Torrijos used when he installed Royo in the presidency. I said that it is necessary for us to implement a complete process of democratization, in which an honest contest would be allowed, guaranteeing the participation of all with equal opportunity, and that a new "transition," in addition to leading us to total disaster, because democracy cannot be delayed any longer, would make another former officer the presidential candidate in 1989, if we get that far.

I consider the dialogue to have been a good and positive experience. I learned what my opponent thinks. Paredes learned what many Panamanians think of him. I feel that I have complied with a duty of conscience in telling him in time, face to face, about the ills to which Panama would be exposed if we do not construct a true democracy "right now" and if we do not end "right now" the corrupt system that we have endured since the coup in 1968, which is an obstacle to our national development.

Electoral Promises Scorned

PA222124 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Aug 83 p 10-A

[From the "Without Rhyme or Reason" column, by Mario J. de Obaldia]

[Text] General Ruben Dario Paredes' candidacy has finally materialized, even though nothing happened the way the public expected it to -- or at least it seems that way. Everyone thought that his nomination would follow the traditional process, which involves special conventions by those political parties that are eager to jump onto the victorious chariot of the Caesar (former Caesar, I mean) and, amid shouts, cheers, and rowdy celebration, proclaim the nomination of this "illustrious citizen who, having proven his wisdom, honesty, and energy, is the logical choice to guide the nation's chariot along the paths of peace and prosperity."

This time, though, everything was different. The general built what he himself described as his "launching pad" and hurled himself, without assistance, into outer space, where he has been floating aimlessly since Saturday. No one knows just yet how long he will remain in this limbo, but several experts in the field presume that the gentlemen of the PALA [Labor Party] and the FRAMPO [Popular Broad Front] will not wait too long before they dash off in pursuit of him, bringing him back and telling him: "General, this is not the way it is done. Let us nominate you, so that you will have at least a base of support."

However, the problem is that Mr Ruben Dario -- disregarding the law -- does not want to be nominated by any particular party. He will be nominated (at least so he thinks) by the entire enthusiastic, vibrant, and euphoric country. He wants to be the candidate of national unity; of a unity that the most prestigious political leaders of yesteryear never obtained for themselves. He will give it a try, for he has already said: "We have held talks with the strongest political parties, and I am very happy with the progress that we made." Well, well! This is really great news. Without our even knowing it, Ruben was making progress with the Authentic Panamenist Party, the MOLIRENA [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement], the Christian Democratic Party, the PAPO [People's Action Party], and possibly the Liberal Party as well, while Arnulfo Escalona said nothing to those of us who are close to him.

The general told us many nice things in the statement to the press broadcast on television. It is what he modestly called his "candidacy offer," which the people should analyze, weigh, and examine very seriously, so that they may reach the logical conclusion that no one else can offer anything nearly as promising. Frankly, we were not overwhelmed by his promises, perhaps because we remembered that when he held real power, he did not do these things; how could he possibly do them when he holds (if he ever does) the unreal power?

But Roderico [Roderick] Esquivel, president of the dissenting group of Liberals, who was in Nargana, issued a statement that filled our eyes with patriotic tears: "A man who promises all that is the logical candidate for the presidency of the republic." Since we know that there are no television sets in Nargana, we suppose that Mr Roderico, by reacting so quickly, proved that he knew beforehand what Mr Ruben Dario intended to say. This only shows that the general had already chatted with this group, at least. Do you not agree, dear reader?

LIBERAL PARTY PRESIDENT DISPUTES BACKING ARIAS

PA192148 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Interview with Liberal Party President Roderick Esquivel, by unidentified correspondent; date and place not given -- recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] ...division within the Liberal Party. Whether or not this is so, why does Dr Escalona place himself in the opposition, while your group does not seem to be as well defined within the framework of the opposition?

[Esquivel] Dr Escalona has become a loyal fan of Arnulfo Arias, but Arias does not have a monopoly over the opposition. Moreover, Dr Arias has been silent all these years, while we have been trying to find solutions for this country, solutions leading toward effective democracy, and how to achieve this effective democracy. The Liberal Party -- Dr Escalona, myself, and the entire party -- have been and continue to be an opposition party. We opposed the dictatorial regime that ruled this country for many years. In recent years there has been a democratic opening, and we are very confident that in the future we will have true democracy in this country.

But we feel there cannot be true democracy if we are moved by a desire for revenge and threaten the military with execution. We will not achieve the Panamanian family's unity that way, or achieve democracy in a climate of respect. The military has been very seriously discussing the country's democratization, and they have been sponsoring this process. There are many signals that the path toward democracy has been opened. Now, Dr Escalona and certain other political leaders feel that we can achieve democracy through insults and bullets. This would not include Dr Arias, who has neither said anything nor insulted anyone.

[Correspondent] How can we talk about opposition in referring to the Liberal Party you represent, when it is rumored in political circles that the Liberals would accept the vice presidency?

[Esquivel] We have not discussed any position. I do not know what those circles are; I have not sat down to discuss with anyone what electoral position the Liberal Party would fill on any ticket. I am being confused with Dr Escalona, who is indeed discussing vice presidencies. The important thing is, why does one participate in politics? The Liberal Party is discussing the bases for the transition to democracy. In this country the people talk a lot about candidates, but do not concern themselves with what the candidate wants. We...[correspondent interrupts]

[Correspondent] Excuse me for interrupting, but what does the candidate want?

[Esquivel] No candidate has been nominated yet. The only candidate acclaimed or proclaimed by a political party -- the PALA [Agrarian Labor Party], as you already know -- is General Paredes. Gen Paredes has emerged from the General Staff as a good possible candidate for a transition toward democracy, and we approached him in order to learn what he really has to offer in an election as representative of the National Guard, which has been and continues to be the real power here in Panama.

We think that as long as we can identify ourselves with the National Guard in certain areas, a peaceful transition toward effective democracy will be more likely, and this is what we want.

COSTA RICADEPUTY MINISTER DISCUSSES REFUGEE PROBLEM

PA200448 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Text] Deputy Government Minister Enrique Chacon has said that one must be very careful when dealing with the matter of refugees, since it has been confirmed that many who have entered the country as refugees do not qualify as such. He cited some cases, most of them involving Salvadorans, who claim to be refugees, but who are actually spies of the various groups involved in the conflict there. Some of the Miskitos who have arrived in the country -- presumably as refugees -- are merely seeking a better place to live, and are not necessarily directly affected by the ongoing war in their country.

Chacon said that in past years the country has had to handle thousands of refugees, especially Nicaraguans and Salvadorans.

According to Chacon, the rising crime rate related to this situation is not to be (?taken lightly). There are some 50,000 Nicaraguans and some 23,000 Salvadorans in the country without documents. As a result, assaults are common occurrence on the streets, as is the presence of so-called "chainmen" [cadeneros] and other types of criminals who were not common in Costa Rica before, Chacon added.

Unfortunately, this is a very complex problem, and therefore very difficult to solve, even for such countries as Mexico and the United States, which have many economic resources.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH DOMINICAN REPUBLIC -- Following the Central Bank's approval of a compensation and reciprocal credit agreement with the Dominican Republic on 11 August, the private sector will now be able to increase trade with that country. Under this agreement, which will be signed in Santo Domingo in a few days, no foreign exchange will be used in trade between Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. In addition, the two countries' central banks will grant credit of up to \$2 million to cover import and export balances. [Summary] [San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 12 Aug 83 p 2 PA]

DECREASE IN PRODUCTION -- A study conducted by the University of Costa Rica's Economic Science Research Institute has revealed that industrial production decreased by 4.2 percent during the first half of 1983, compared to production for the same period in 1982. The affected areas are the metal and wood industries, as the textile, leather, paper, and nonmetallic industries have increased production. [Summary] [San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 19 Aug 83 p 8-a PA]

EL SALVADORASSEMBLY REJECTS RATIFICATION OF U.S. DONATION

PA222222 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 22 Aug 83 p 11

[Text] The Constituent Assembly did not ratify the previously signed agreement on the U.S. Government's donation of \$3.4 million for the Central Electrical Council [CCE] because the conditions of the agreement might interfere with the electoral law.

"It is a question of national sovereignty. This sort of agreement must be assessed," Deputy Septalín Santos Ponce said. He added: "If we are to ratify something, it must be thoroughly assessed to ensure that any unfortunate situation that might damage our sovereignty in the future is prevented."

Democratic Action Deputies Ricardo Gonzalez Camacho and Luis Nelson Segovia also participated in the discussion. As is normal in such cases, they brought up legal aspects that must be examined by a special commission. This analysis can be made by the commission on legislation and constitutional affairs, with advice from the foreign relations section.

"If the electoral registry is not ready when the financing arrives in the country," Deputy Carmen Canas de Lazo of the Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party, PAISA, said, "other means could be established. Moreover, it has also been mentioned that part of that donation will come in the form of goods, which have nothing to do with the activities of the CCE."

Many arguments were brought up during the discussion and it was decided that the donation would not be approved. The prevailing feeling was that if conditions were placed on the electoral law, the principles of our national sovereignty would be harmed.

VIDES CASANOVA ANNOUNCES SUSPENSION OF CEREMONIES

PA230253 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] Salvadoran Defense Minister General Eugenio Vides Casanova has announced that all civil and military ceremonies traditionally held in September will be suspended again this year so that members of the Armed Forces will not be distracted from their relentless struggle against subversion.

HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP COMMENTS ON AMNESTY LAW

PA191245 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish 1900 GMT 18 Aug 83

[Salvadoran Human Rights Commission "Before the National Conscience" program: "The Amnesty Law Expires"]

[Text] The much-publicized Amnesty and Citizen Rehabilitation Law has expired. This was the legal instrument with which the provisional government of Alvaro Magana attempted to begin a so-called process of democratization in Salvadoran society.

According to information received by the media from the Amnesty Board, the executive group created to enforce the law during its 3-month life, 544 people described as rebels accepted the law. In addition, 551 persons who were awaiting trial before military courts were released.

This law was accompanied by a propaganda campaign of enormous dimensions with the objective of generating some credibility among the Salvadoran people and the international community. They were trying to convince members of the rebel forces to abandon their stand of political opposition.

However, the first objective was the most important: It was necessary to persuade Salvadoran society and the international community that we in this country are headed toward a democratic state, one which will guarantee human rights, a state that allows its citizens to support the participation of a political opposition. However, it was the United States they wanted to impress or had to impress.

It is no secret that this law was born because of U.S. pressure. The Reagan administration was having problems with the U.S. Congress in getting the economic and military aid it wanted for El Salvador. That is why it was important that actions be taken here, even though these were only on paper. This would help rebuild the destroyed image of the Salvadoran Government.

It is difficult to clearly determine the results of the amnesty law. It is evident that the cold figures supplied by the Amnesty Board don't speak much of the law or the purpose for which it was created. Among other things, they sought national reconciliation through this law. Was it achieved? Obviously not. The political and military situation continues as before.

It is true that several hundred Salvadorans were released from jail, but at the same time several hundred more were imprisoned. It would be good to mention Monsignor Arturo Rivera y Damas' homily on this subject. He said that it seems to be a merry-go-round: That is, some came out and others went in.

What about the political prisoners who were not released? It is important to mention this, because the Amnesty Board said nothing about it. A sizeable number, probably more than 300, did not benefit from the amnesty law -- men and women who have been treated very shamefully. Doesn't this law -- intended to benefit all political prisoners -- apply to them? These people, aside from being in prison, don't know their real legal situation. They don't know because their cases are before the military courts and, under Decree 507, they are not eligible for trial. In other words, they have neither been released nor told how long they will remain in prison.

The information on the large number not eligible for the amnesty law only confirms the fact that the reason for this law was mere propaganda. Its creation was based not on the real and sincere desire to begin fulfilling the people's minimum requirements for national pacification, but on the desire to carry out a policy of pacification involving annihilation of the opposition.

The law was enforced only because of U.S. pressure. There is still no political desire here in this country to begin real democratization. The idea is to militarize Salvadoran society; to close the few spaces we have left open. In other words, to continue using violent repression as the only means of solving complex national problems.

And speaking of this law, we are also obligated to mention not only those prisoners who were not released -- at least we know they are alive -- but what of those approximately 4,000 persons who have disappeared in the past 3 years? We don't want the government to think that we have forgotten them. They are also Salvadorans, human beings, some of whose only fault was to belong to a political group and the others, the majority, [word indistinct]. In this country just signaling a person is enough for the worst to happen. Absolutely nothing is said about these Salvadorans. They expect us to silently accept the fact that they are dead. They want us to think of them as something of the past, as a memory.

The amnesty law has definitely not solved the conflict. Instead of decreasing in intensity it becomes stronger each day. The war, instead of showing signs of ending, seems to be growing in scope. We believe that if they really seek to democratize the country, it will be necessary to implement measures that will truly offer guarantees for political participation and respect for human rights. The amnesty law should be applied to all those in prison and to all political missing persons: the prisoners whose existence is admitted and those kept in clandestine jails. Only in this manner can we believe that the government honestly wishes to begin to walk the path of national pacification.

Meanwhile, this amnesty law now becomes a legal measure very much like the one enforced during Duarte's government, and reality continues to show us that we cannot end political opposition with propaganda. This is another example, for those who currently govern the country, that dialogue is the only way out of this heartbreaking situation.

A requiem for the amnesty law. Another child has died; another legal child is added to the many that have been created. Salvadoran reality is so complex and powerful that it was stronger than the law.

FMLN-FDR AGREES TO MEET PEACE COMMISSION, STONE

PA221738 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1539 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] San Jose, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Spokesmen for the Salvadoran guerrillas have announced here that they have agreed to "a preliminary meeting" with that country's Peace Commission, after arranging a formal meeting with Richard Stone, U.S. special ambassador for Central America.

Spokesmen for the FMLN and the FDR of El Salvador told ACAN-EFE that, even though the Peace Commission is not part of the Salvadoran power structure, it has enough links with the government to be heeded.

"It can contribute by expressing ideas and trying to change the government's negative attitude toward the search for a political solution that all Salvadorans are dutybound to seek through dialogue," the FMLN-FDR representatives said. They explained that this preliminary meeting was arranged through "a qualified Salvadoran," but did not reveal his identity. Nor did they reveal the date or place where the meeting would be held.

With regard to the first official dialogue with Stone, they only repeated that it would soon be held in a Latin American country, with an open agenda.

MORE ON FMLN LEADER'S CHARGES OF U.S. 'COUP PLANS'

PA230355 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 20 Aug 83 p 13

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 19 Aug (AIP, NOTISAL, and SALPRESS) -- Commander Ferman Cienfuegos, a guerrilla leader, has charged that the United States is preparing a coup d'etat in El Salvador as a step which will permit it to increase its intervention in Central America and allow the presence of a "peace force."

He said that the coup plan includes the creation of a "new government of transition" to be composed of rightists who are not yet discredited.

According to the rebel commander, this would lead to presidential elections "that would keep the armed institution intact" and permit a request for a multinational peace force to "guarantee" the development of the electoral process in that country.

The member of the FMLN's General Command said that domestically, the coup would be led by Deputy Defense Minister General Rafael Flores Lima, whom he described as "pro-imperialist."

FMLN-FDR DISAVOWS ACTIONS AGAINST MEXICO

FL222230 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1850 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- El Salvador's FMLN and FDR have condemned the conduct of Salvadorans who may violate the principle of respect toward Mexico.

A communique sent by representatives of the FMLN-FDR in Mexico to Colonel Jorge Carrillo Olea, under secretary of government, disavowed any actions or conduct on the part of Salvadorans against the state of Mexico. The communique referred to two individuals who go by the names of Jorge Morgan and "Cain," who have behaved with an attitude contrary to the aforementioned principles and whose conduct is strongly censured and condemned by the FMLN-FDR. The communique said that these persons -- who are completely unattached to our fronts or to the organizations we represent -- act in an irresponsible manner that damages our prestige and the good relations we maintain with your government.

The communique also praised Mexico's foreign policy and expressed the gratitude of the Salvadoran opposition for Mexico's generous hospitality in allowing thousands of Salvadorans to find refuge and safety in this land.

Similarly, it noted that Mexican and French government recognition of the FMLN-FDR as a representative force in El Salvador made it incumbent upon them to conduct themselves in a manner which would not hurt Mexico's interests or harm the existing cordial and fraternal relations.

BOMB EXPLODES NEAR CAPITAL; 10 SOLDIERS INJURED

PA222028 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1839 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Military sources have told this agency that Salvadoran guerrillas today detonated a bomb at a point quite close to this capital as a military truck passed by, injuring 10 national guardsmen, among them a corporal who is in serious condition.

The action reportedly took place early this morning at Km 11 of the trunk highway that connects San Salvador with the northern part of the country. The military sources added that the two sides exchanged fire for 15 minutes following the explosion, and that the guerrillas withdrew shortly thereafter.

A local morning newspaper today reported that the El Burro railroad bridge, near the city of Tecoluca, in the central part of the country, had been destroyed on Saturday. The railroad had been destroyed in October and repaired in late February of this year. The new dynamite attack destroyed half the bridge and caused considerable damage to the rest of the structure.

Further Report

PA222127 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Several national guardsmen, including a corporal, were wounded today when guerrillas ambushed their truck at Km 11 of the northern trunk highway, in the jurisdiction of Apopa, San Salvador Department. According to reports, the action took place around 0630. The guerrillas threw a grenade into the front of the vehicle, which was carrying about 20 national guardsmen.

It has also been reported that the military base in Tejutepeque, 60 km north of San Salvador in Cabanas Department, was harassed for more than 3 hours by leftist guerrillas. The attack began at 2300 and ended at 0200 today. While the number of guerrilla casualties is unknown, it has been said that the Army suffered no losses.

It has been reported that around 1000 today, fighting began in the place known as (Puente Negro) near Tecoluca, San Vicente Department. There have not been any casualties thus far.

FMLN REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES IN MORAZAN DEPARTMENT

PA201250 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Text] On Wednesday morning, forces from the Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade entered Sociedad, an important town 15 km from San Francisco Gotera, capital of Morazan Department.

Recent reports from Sociedad indicate that the glorious units from our revolutionary brigade continue to control the town, where they are calling on the people to join their ranks and are carrying out intense political activity to unmask the CONARA [National Commission for Reconstruction of Affected Areas] plan, which the dictatorship, with U.S. advice, is trying to initiate in this department.

Thousands of Sociedad residents have reacted positively to our position statements. These statements are being disseminated by our fighters from the Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade who, as we have reported, have controlled Sociedad since Wednesday. These activities are being carried out at the same time that the incompetent Colonel Jaime Flores claims to have annihilated 70 percent of our forces in this western zone of El Salvador. Colonel Jaime Flores is beginning to swallow his own lies.

Further information from Morazan Department points out that on 16 August, forces from the Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade entered the town of Cacaopera in this department, located 10 km from San Francisco Gotera.

Today, 19 August [as heard], the Lenca Battalion showed itself, supported by the enemy air force and artillery, and was engaged in clashes lasting several hours. Our revolutionary brigade inflicted many casualties on the Lenca Battalion during this fighting. The clashes took place in Ocotillo canton, Cacaopera jurisdiction. Our revolutionary forces withdrew in an orderly manner without casualties.

GUATEMALA

CHANGES IN MINISTERIAL CABINET ANNOUNCED

PA230331 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2344 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- The government of General Oscar Mejia Victores today removed Adolfo Castaneda Felice as public health and social assistance minister and appointed Jorge Ramiro Rivera in his place.

In addition, Rafael Escobar Arguello was dismissed as state deputy secretary for public relations. He will be replaced today by Ramon Zelada Carrillo, former president of the Guatemalan Newsmen's Association.

Meanwhile, the evening newspaper LA RAZON reported today that influential members of the country's agricultural sector met with Gen Mejia Victores to suggest the dismissal of Leopoldo Sandoval Villeda as minister of agriculture, livestock, and foodstuffs. They proposed two candidates for the post.

MLN PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR MEJIA ADMINISTRATION

PA222327 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 22 Aug 83

["Aspects" of a position statement issued on 21 August by the leaders of Guatemalan National Liberation Movement, MLN, outlined by MLN Spokesman Alberto Antoniotti -- recorded]

[Text] While it is true that some of the pledges, reforms, and changes promised in the proclamation issued by the Army commanders on the day of General Efraim Rios Montt's removal from office have yet to be fulfilled, it is also true that the present political regime must be given political support. This is so because it clearly intends to seek a speedy return to constitutionality through the prompt scheduling of elections. It is also true that we find it very unfortunate that unprincipled officials, who pledged loyalty to General Rios Montt because of personal ambition, still remain in office, thus impairing and obstructing the task of a transitional government that is clearly attempting to steer the country toward national harmony.

The MLN expresses its support for the administration of General Oscar Mejia Victores, trusting in the word and pledges of the Army High Command.

We ask that the value added tax, IVA, be rescinded in the near future and that the ill-fated land reform be rejected. We demand that the high officials from the now deposed regime have the necessary integrity and pride to resign their positions. From this moment on, the MLN declares itself to be a zealous watchdog charged with the task of ensuring that the administration's pledges are kept, in pursuit of a better Guatemala, governed by a legal regime.

ARMY REPORTS RECENT CLASHES WITH GUERRILLAS

PA230051 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] A subversive identified as Commander Almarin died in an armed clash with a military patrol at Santo Cristo de Uspantan, El Quiche, according to a report from the Army's Public Relations Office. The report adds that the rest of the group fled to nearby areas, leaving their knapsacks and personal belongings behind. The same source also reported that a military patrol clashed with unidentified elements at El Tablon, in the Village of Copala, in Nenton, Huehuetenango. A soldier, Mario Alonso Alvarez, a civil patrolman, Manuel de Jesus Camposeco, and a subversive who has not yet been identified were killed in this action.

Last week, the Army discovered 7 tons of weapons in a subversive hideout in Uspantan, Quiche, after killing 6 guerrillas.

HAVANA CITES URNG LEADER ON 'DICTATOR' MEJIA

PA221916 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] The new Guatemalan dictator, General Oscar Mejia Victores, is a well-known mass murderer, organizer of peasant massacres, and an unconditional servant of Washington, according to Andrea Ramirez, member of the National Guatemalan Revolutionary Unity [URNG] delegation in Cuba.

The revolutionary leader explained that the Guatemalan military command is desperately trying to unify the Army, but that such unity is impossible in an institution filled with groups and leaders whose only objective is to build fortunes at the cost of the people.

HONDURAS

GUATEMALAN FOREIGN MINISTER PAYS 3-HOUR VISIT

PA230043 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1831 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran today denied that there is an alliance among his country, Honduras, and El Salvador against the Managua regime.

The official stated that while "friendly ties" exist between Guatemala and the other countries of Central America, there is certainly no alliance.

Diaz-Duran was in Tegucigalpa this morning on an official visit of only 3 hours as part of a tightly scheduled trip through the region, "to meet the area's foreign ministers personally and to exchange opinions with them on the current situation in Central America."

The Guatemalan foreign minister justified his government's request for a postponement of a meeting between his colleagues from the Contadora Group (Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, and Columbia) and the Central American foreign ministers, which was scheduled for next Thursday, by saying that there is a "need to have more in-depth information about the work that has been done by the group since last January."

Diaz-Duran also denied that General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, the new Guatemalan head of state, is critical of the Contadora Group's efforts, explaining that this allegation is the result of a misinterpretation of remarks made by the head of state.

"What we think, and I repeat it now, is that any effort in search of peace in Central America deserves attention and support from all the governments in the area, but the final decision belongs solely, exclusively, to the Central Americans," Diaz-Duran said.

The minister said that his country's foreign policy will not be fundamentally different due to the recent change in government, but added that an effort is being made to secure more and more active participation in Guatemala's international relations. "We have an independent foreign policy, although it is one of intensive cooperation with the other countries of Central America," Diaz-Duran added.

The Guatemalan foreign minister said that his country's new government will respect human rights and freedom of the press, and guarantees a prompt return to a constitutional order.

On the meeting today with his Honduran colleague, Edgardo Paz Barnica, the Guatemalan foreign minister said that it was "very satisfactory" and declared himself "hopeful in view of the Honduran Government's creative position on the Central American situation."

Diaz-Duran left for El Salvador and Costa Rica, visits which will be followed by a stop in Managua, where he will remain until tomorrow, when he is scheduled to return to Guatemala.

NICARAGUARAMIREZ TIES MIG PURCHASE TO ADVISERS DISPUTE

PA191455 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 18 Aug 83

[Text] In its 0530 newscast this morning, the Voice of America reported the main parts of an AP interview with Sergio Ramirez, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, in which Ramirez said that the Sandinist Government will not make any concessions in sovereign matters related to its internal policy. However, Ramirez conceded that the Nicaraguan Government is willing to hold talks on the withdrawal of foreign advisers from Central America, adding that if an agreement is not reached, Nicaragua could be compelled to acquire MIG planes and other advanced-technology aircraft for its defense.

HUMBERTO ORTEGA ON COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY PLANS

PA201405 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega has said in Managua that Nicaragua is the target of a new aggressive campaign that is much better organized and has a greater logistical capacity than those launched in the past.

In a statement to the local and foreign press accredited in this city, Humberto Ortega pointed out that the counterrevolutionaries are now trying to achieve the objectives of their first offensive, which was defeated at the beginning of the year. The Sandinist leader said that the counterrevolutionaries have as one of their objectives the occupation of major towns and even of cities such as Matagalpa.

AGE LIMIT DISPUTED IN MILITARY SERVICE BILL

PA191225 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Aug 83

[Text] The special commission that will pass judgement on the Patriotic Military Service Bill will meet tomorrow. The strength of this special commission has been bolstered by the addition of other members like Mariano Fiallos Oyanguren, delegate of the CNES [National Council of Higher Education], Mauricio Diaz and Julio Ramon Garcia of the People's Social Christian Party, and Angela Rosa Acevedo, delegate of AMNLAE [Luisa Amanda Espinoza Nicaraguan Women's Association]. This commission is completed by Commander Rafael (?Cerrud), Alfonso Lacayo, and Alberto Blanco.

In the commission's first meeting on Monday, the members made several suggestions. Garcia, for example, said that the debate on this bill should be postponed and that it should have two aspects: compulsory and voluntary.

Diaz and Fiallos Oyanguren said they believed the recruiting age should be between 18 and 40 years old. The bill states that the ages should be 17 and 50 years old.

The first five articles were discussed on Monday, but the most controversial ones will be discussed in the next meeting. Critical matters such as the recruiting age will be discussed by the commission. Debates are expected within the council. Various reasons have been given to establish the maximum age at 40 and 50. It is expected that this debate will be very interesting.

FPR ASKS PEREZ DE CUELLAR TO MEDIATE IN C.A.

PA221918 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] The Patriotic Front of the Revolution [FPR] has sent a message to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar asking him to mediate and work for peace in Central America.

The message is signed by FPR spokesman Cesar Delgadillo. Similar messages have been sent to Honduran Archbishop (Hector Sanchez) and to the Hungarian cardinal [not further identified].

HAVANA REPORTS GROUP TO ATTEND CUBAN SCHOOLS

PA221851 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] A group of 375 Nicaraguan youths will leave in the next few days for Cuba to receive training in various specialties in Cuban schools, it was officially announced in Managua.

This new group raises the number of Nicaraguans trained in Cuba to 2,000. There are currently over 1,000 students from different sectors of Nicaragua studying in Cuba. Three hundred graduates recently returned to Nicaragua and immediately took their places in the country's economy.

HUMOR PUBLICATION SUSPENDED FOR 1 MONTH

PA211950 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Aug 83

[Text] The Directorate of Communications Media of the Interior Ministry has decided to suspend the humor tabloid LA SEMANA COMICA for a month.

The official note states that the 19-26 August issue of LA SEMANA COMICA was published without prior approval from the media directorate, in violation of the national emergency law.

Conservative publications like the daily newspaper LA PRENSA have been penalized on other occasions for violating the law.

SPECIAL TROOPS 20TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATED

FL221603 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] The 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Special Troops Directorate was commemorated in Havana at a ceremony presided over by General of the Army Raul Castro, second secretary of the party and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces. The ceremony was also attended by Ramiro Valdes, member of the politburo and interior minister. The ceremony began with the parading of the flag and playing of the national anthem. After one minute of silence, the roll was called of the heroes of official troops who fell in combat, headed by Antonio Briones Mondoto. Colonel (Montelior Leon), chief of the troops, read the order of the day, after which Privates Boris del Pino, Antonio Briones Gonzalez, and Lieutenant Francisco Caamano handed presents to the president.

Commander Alvaro Baltodano, member of the Sandinist Army's general staff, read a greeting on the occasion of the anniversary which had been sent by Revolutionary Commander Humberto Ortega, defense minister of Nicaragua. Division General Jose Abrahantes, member of the Central Committee and first vice minister of the interior, said that the Special Troops Directorate was established on 20 August 1963 at the orders of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. Abrahantes concluded by saying: Let us renew our loyalty to the revolution, Fidel, and Raul, and let us reaffirm that there will be no mission that we are incapable of carrying out. This was followed by demonstrations of karate, parachute jumping, and sharpshooting.

Also present were members of the Politburo, party leaders, state leaders, leaders of mass organizations, relatives of the martyrs of the special troops, and chiefs and officers of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and the Interior Ministry.

U.S. 'MERCENARIES' REPORTED IN EL SALVADOR

FL221341 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] U.S. mercenaries, who obtained experience in killing tactics in Vietnam, are now training Salvadoran soldiers. This news was released in San Salvador by Robert Brown, director of the mercenary newspaper SOLDIER OF FORTUNE. According to Brown, 12 former Yankee soldiers who fought in Vietnam, the majority of them members of this magazine's staff, have been in El Salvador since 3 August to train the Salvadoran soldiers. They are working in particular with troops of the Atlacatl Battalion, which has been hard hit by the FMLN guerrillas in spite of the fact that the battalion was trained by Yankee Green Berets. The mercenaries are in Morazan Department.

OIL COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR

FL222358 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] The Soviet Ministry of the Petroleum Industry and the Cuban Ministry of Basic Industry [MINBA] have signed a protocol in Havana which establishes the basic directives for bilateral cooperation in the field of petroleum extraction over upcoming years. The agreement was signed by the Soviet delegation, led by Soviet Deputy Minister of the Petroleum Industry D.A. Takoyev, and his colleague of the MINBA, Oscar Lopez. Cuban Minister of Basic Industry Marcos Portal also attended the signing ceremony.

THACH VISITS VALLE DE PICADURA GENETIC PLAN

FL221857 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Nguyen Co Thach, alternate member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Vietnam and foreign minister of that sister country, has visited the Valles de Picadura Genetic Plan. During his tour he talked with peasants of the Penas del Leon and Victoria de Vietnam communities.

The Vietnamese foreign minister was received by Ramon Castro, director of the plan, who explained to his guest in full view of a very beautiful countryside the agricultural and livestock development of the area and the increase in milk production. Nguyen Co Thach said that the tenacity of the Cuban people has made possible the transformation of society and nature because it has taken a great effort to make a rocky and unproductive land fertile.

BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION VISITS HAVANA

FL221833 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] A delegation of British members of parliament, headed by (William MacKibley) of the British Labor Party, today held a fraternal meeting at the National Assembly of the People's Government in Havana. The visitors were greeted by Jose Aranaburo, secretary of the National Assembly, and Ramiro del Rio, chief of the International Relations Department of the National Assembly. The Cuban deputies expressed to the British members of parliament the importance of having closer friendly relations between the two parliaments. The British members of parliament and their retinue will carry out a broad program in Cuba that includes visits to different centers in Havana, Matanzas, and Cienfuegos.

MALMIERCA ARRIVES IN GDR EN ROUTE TO POLAND

FL222350 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli arrived in Berlin today for a brief visit to the GDR. Malmierca was welcomed at the Berlin airport by Franz Jahnsowski, chief of protocol of the GDR Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Also on hand to welcome Malmierca were Julio Garcia Olivera, Cuban ambassador to the GDR, and Gerhard Korth, chief of the Latin America Department of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

During his 24-hour stay in the GDR enroute to Poland, the Cuban foreign minister will meet with his GDR colleague Oskar Fischer. It is expected that the two officials will discuss bilateral and international affairs and topics related to the situation in Central America and the Caribbean.

CHURCH GROUP VISITS, HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

FL201300 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Text] Methodist Church members of various nationalities who are visiting Cuba have declared themselves in favor of peace and against the arms race. The visitors were invited by their Cuban counterparts on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the founding of their church, which will be commemorated from 14 to 21 August.

The visiting church members held a press conference at the ICAP [Cuban Institute of Friendship With Peoples] to thank Cubans for the welcome they received and for the opportunity to learn the truth about Cuba. They said that, as members and representatives of the more than 40 million-strong Methodist world community, they had come to Cuba to commemorate their church's 100th anniversary in our country.

Church representatives from the United States, Africa, Latin America, and the GDR said that as Christians they were committed to the task of overcoming the barriers of prejudice, noncommunication, and hate and to serve as conduits for the building of peace.

END OF COSTA RICAN SEMINAR ON NAMIBIA REPORTED

PA211840 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Aug 83

[Text] The international seminar on Namibia that has just closed in San Jose, Costa Rica, demanded that South Africa immediately end its illegal occupation of that African territory.

Over 100 delegates from Latin America and other regions of the world rejected every attempt to link Namibia's independence with a withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist military contingent in Angola and denounced the indiscriminate plundering that is being carried out there by the transnational companies, most of which are from the United States and South Africa. The seminar was opened on 16 August by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge, who spoke in favor of Namibia's independence.

Wolpe Cited on Namibia

FL201430 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Text] Howard Wolpe, member of the U.S. House of Representatives, said that it was wrong for his country to attempt to link Namibian independence with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. The U.S. congressman made the statement in an interview with the (?HERALD). He acknowledged that Cuban troops are in that African country only to provide assistance for the defense of the Angolan people.

BRIEFS

TEACHERS ABROAD -- The Cuban Ministry of Education has reported in Havana that a total of 4,335 Cuban teachers are providing internationalist assistance in 20 countries. Of that number, 2,112 teachers are serving in Nicaragua, most of whom are members of the Augusto Cesar Sandino Primary Teachers Contingent, and 1,861 are in Angola as part of the Frank Pais contingent and the Che Guevara Teaching Detachment, composed of 360 student teachers. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Aug 83 FL]

ROMANIAN CULTURAL OFFICIAL'S VISIT -- Ion Botar, secretary general of the Romanian Institute for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, has arrived in our country at the invitation of the Cuban Institute of Friendship With Peoples [ICAP]. During his stay in Cuba, Botar will complete a work schedule which will include visits to sites of political, economic, and social interests, and will take part in activities organized by the ICAP to commemorate Romania's national day. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Aug 83 FL]

BARBADOSTULL SAYS NO GAIRY EXTRADITION REQUEST RECEIVED

FL200102 Bridgetown CANA in English 2253 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Aug 19, CANA -- Grenada has been in touch with Barbados, but has made no formal application for the extradition of ex-Grenada Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy, now holidaying here, Foreign Minister Louis Tull said tonight.

He was responding to CANA queries amid reports that the Grenada Government, which came to power in a 1979 coup that ousted Sir Eric, was studying its options in seeking the return of the 61-year old Gairy.

"We have received some communication from the Government of Grenada, but they have not applied to us for any extradition," Tull said.

Sir Eric, who had fled to the United States, slipped into Barbados Monday night from New York for his first visit back to the Caribbean since his ouster four-and-a-half years ago.

The Maurice Bishop administration in St Georges, which some years ago made an unsuccessful attempt to have the eccentric former Grenada prime minister extradited from the United States, has accused him of crimes against the people, including conspiracy to murder.

Asked how Barbados would respond to a Grenada request for Sir Eric's extradition, Foreign Minister Tull, who is also attorney general replied: "That's a matter for the law courts. It's solely a judicial matter."

Under Barbados's 1980 extradition act, an extradition request would have to be referred to the high court for a decision.

Earlier today, a senior Foreign Ministry official in St Georges confirmed that Grenada was looking at the possibility of having Sir Eric extradited to face charges there.

"The legal office is looking at all the possibilities, because as you know we have applied to the United States before but didn't get a response," the official told CANA.

Foreign Minister Tull said the Barbados Government had no prior knowledge that the California-based Gairy was coming to Barbados.

"The government was not aware until after he was actually in the country," Tull said.

Asked how he would react to a Grenada Government request to Barbados for his extradition, Sir Eric calmly replied: "That would be a matter for the Barbados Government.

"They (the Bishop government) tried that with the United States, too, and it was brushed aside."

Sir Eric, speaking in his Holiday Inn hotel room, counter-charged that it was Bishop's New Jewel Movement which had committed crimes. They had killed people and committed treason and they were the ones to be tried.

Sir Eric said he continued to have contact with Grenadians in Grenada and he was confident that the people wanted him back.

Sir Eric also issued a lengthy statement today expressing regret at having to expel a Barbadian journalist, Norman Faria, from his press conference on Wednesday.

Sir Eric said neither Faria nor the Caribbean contact newspaper which he represented had been invited. Yet Faria "pushed his way into my conference, ensconced himself in one of the few seats provided for those invited and handed out copies of a document "condemning" Eric Gairy's presence in Barbados."

"Such a display is an indescribably insidious pattern of behaviour and totally unacceptable in any cultured society."

Added Sir Eric: "I must express my regrets over the whole incident, particularly as it was never my intention to speak to the news media. They requested and I politely complied."

GRENADA

NEW AIRPORT COMPLETION SLATED FOR 8 MARCH 84

FL221651 Bridgetown CANA in English 1547 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Aug 22, CANA -- The Grenada Government says it has been assured of adequate air service into the new international airport for the fifth festival of the revolution in March next year.

Speaking to the state-owned Radio Free Grenada, Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism Lyden Ramdhanny said last weekend that the airport will be opened on March 8 and two airlines -- Pan American and BWIA [British West Indian Airways] -- have expressed "firm interest" in having flights to serve Grenada at that time.

Mr Ramdhanny said the government has had "good responses" also from British Caledonia and British Airways.

The minister said discussions were continuing with three other airlines -- Air Canada, Wardair [Wardair Canada 1975 Ltd] and VIASA [Venezuelan International Airways] -- and the latter has given "firm indication" that there will be at least two flights per week into Grenada after the airport at Point Salines has opened.

"But in terms of the route rights question," he said, "that is on a country-to-country basis and discussions are still going on on a government-to-government basis with a number of countries."

PRIME MINISTER SCORES U.S. C.A. MANEUVERS

FL221918 Bridgetown CANA in English 1955 GMT 21 Aug 83

[By George Worme]

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Aug 21 CANA -- Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop says current United States military manoeuvres in Central America pose the "gravest threat ever" to the region. Speaking to visiting members of the U.S.-based National Alliance of Third World Journalists, Bishop said these manoeuvres often have direct implications for Grenada. He noted that the U.S. held similar exercises last year off Honduras' coast. Bishop claimed that because of the current exercises aircraft pilots flying in the region have been told they cannot fly in certain sections of Grenada's air space. The Grenada leader also reiterated government's opposition to U.S. plans to deploy new nuclear weapons in Western Europe if a satisfactory arms agreement cannot be reached with the Soviet Union.

Prime Minister Bishop said the deployment of new nuclear weapons in Western Europe would have a devastating effect on detente and on the question of peaceful co-existence.

He said that the Caribbean island saw the proposed deployment of new weapons in Western Europe as a dangerous development.

This move, he said, already had the effect of gravely aggravating tensions in the world and reintroducing what he called a cold war atmosphere in the world.

ST LUCIA

COMPTON COMMENTS ON 'LIBYAN CONNECTION' IN AREA

FL201940 Bridgetown CANA in English 1905 GMT 20 Aug 83

[All Quotation Marks As Received]

[By Guy Ellis]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Aug 20, CANA -- St Lucia Prime Minister John Compton says intelligence reports indicate that Libya has been making large sums of money available for political activity in the Eastern Caribbean.

Compton was reporting to Parliament on an incident here last month, when police confiscated the passports of 14 St Lucians he said were bound for Libya for training in terrorism and sabotage.

The St Lucia leader said Dominica had also been drawn into the Libyan net and he maintained there was a link between the incident here and both the opposition Progressive Labour Party (PLP) and a St Lucia-based British handicraft dealer David England.

Compton told the House of Assembly how the intelligence services of "certain friendly" countries had been passing on information to his government as early as last October about a Libyan connection in the Caribbean involving St Lucia and other territories.

In May this year, Compton said, the government was informed that Libya was making available large sums of money for political activity in the Eastern Caribbean, part of which was funnelled through the PLP, "an allegation which, since its exposure, the PLP had not denied.

According to Compton, in June this year the same intelligence services alerted his government to the possibility of further Libyan activity in St Lucia and the rest of the region, and that camps were being set up in Libya for the training in terrorism and sabotage for recruits from the Eastern Caribbean.

He added: "The local security forces were put on the alert and by mid-July, these reports of recruitment were confirmed, as instructions had been issued through the Libyan Embassy in Mexico to provide tickets for travel to Libya for 100 persons from the Eastern Caribbean, 28 of whom were to come from St Lucia.

"In the dragnet of security information one name attracted attention, that of David England.

"The purpose for which these people were recruited has been confirmed by 15 Dominican returnees who were similarly lured to Libya on the false promise of student scholarships, only to find themselves confined to terrorist training camps."

Compton again discounted PLP claims that the recruits were students of 18 who had been selected from St Lucia. He said "seven were known criminals convicted of a variety of offences ranging from using threatening words to being armed with a dangerous weapon."

The prime minister told how, earlier this month, solicitors for England had inquired of his government what action it proposed to take against him.

Added Compton: "The prime minister informed the solicitors that the government will take the necessary steps to ensure the departure of Mr England from St Lucia.

"But realising that Mr England had been resident in St Lucia from some 16 years and had business interests here, the government will adopt a compassionate attitude by permitting him to depart voluntarily, so that he may be able to return from time to time to supervise the winding up of his business, but that if Mr England refused to leave voluntarily, appropriate steps will be taken to declare him a prohibited immigrant in which case he would never be permitted to return."

But Compton said that his government's "compassionate attitude" had been interpreted as a sign of weakness or indecision by the PLP which had attempted to mobilise public opinion with a series of political meetings and what he said were threats against public order.

Compton declared: "Let me assure this honourable House that no threat -- personal or otherwise, nor petition, nor public abuse of bomb scares will divert government from its resolve to perform its prime function; that is, to ensure the security of the state and the safety of all who live within its borders, and all necessary steps -- legislative, executive and popular mobilisation to the awareness of the danger -- will be taken to this end."

He said the issue was not one of personality, place of origin, race or political affiliation. It was a matter of a threat to the security of the state and an attempt to secure change by unconstitutional means.

Compton added: "What cannot and will not be permitted is the involvement of any person, national or non-national in activities which seek to undermine and endanger the very foundations of our nation as a democratic and peaceful state.

"When such activities involved a non-national, this constitutes a flagrant abuse of this country's hospitality and the presence of such persons in our midst cannot therefore be tolerated.

Compton also announced that Newman Monrose, local manager of Eastern Airlines, whom the government has also implicated in the plan, had been reported to his employers "because his employment gives him access to Hewanorra International Airport, a restricted area, and "because of the danger his activities pose to national security."

Compton told the House that Monrose, a St Lucian, had attempted to charter aircraft owned by the newly-launched local company Winling, to take the St Lucian trainees to Martinique on July 24, from where they would have boarded Air France on to Paris before flying to Libya.

He said Winling had turned down Monrose's business and he had approached St Lucia Airways where used the Eastern Airlines custom to obtain a five percent discount.
[Sentence as received]

Compton's declaration on England followed a plea by PLP leader George Odlum to the prime minister by letter urging him to either drop the "charges" against the businessman or to pursue them through the process of law.

Odlum told Compton: "I trust that, at this crucial point in our economic and political evolution, you would see the merit in letting dogs lie."

The PLP leader said that England was not in any way associated with the arrangements. Odlum deemed the Government's decision to have England leave here was a case of "victimisation."